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Hot. Shot



► Calgary Flames' Curtis Glencross celebrates his goal against the Colorado Avalanche during the third period in Calgary on Thursday.

LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Late goal lifts Flames to win

Olli Jokinen scored the winner at 15:10 of the third period Thursday as the Calgary Flames defeated the Colorado Avalanche, 3-2. Curtis Glencross had a goal and an assist, and Lee Stempniak had the other goals for Calgary. Brendan Morrison added two assists. Story, page 52.

Booze-test thresholds to change

► Criminal charges could be avoided for readings under .1 ► Individuals would still face heightened administrative measures

Challenges with convicting an accused driver who has only slightly exceeded the Criminal Code's specified level of alcohol impairment has led Alberta police to change their "warn" and "fail" ranges for roadside testing.

Prior to the introduction of new legislation approved Tuesday, which will allow police to suspend a first-time offender who provides a "warn" blood-alcohol reading for three days, police services will recalibrate their machines, granting new options to drivers with a blood-alcohol level under .1.

Currently, the machines are set so the "warn" range falls between .05 and .08. Soon, a software change will see those parameters altered to .06 and .099.

Any driver caught in the "warn" range have the option to accept the short-term suspension immediately or request further testing, where they run the risk of blowing over .08 and being charged criminally, confirmed Calgary police Sgt. Richard Butler.

"My understanding is they put that cushion in there for the simple reason that it wards off a potential (court) defence ... the cops are doing their jobs here, but

Upgrades

► The Calgary Police Service will also be upgrading its district office blood-alcohol machines next month. The 120 machines cost \$650 apiece and are believed to be as accurate as the current models, which have been in use in Calgary since 1999, said Sgt. Richard Butler.

they need some more tools," Alberta solicitor general Jonathan Denis explained Thursday.

Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson has previously admitted that convicting a driver with a reading below .1 is difficult, and front-line officers suggested to Metro last month that up to 25 per cent of impaired cases are ruled in favour of the accused.

"Are people getting the benefit of the doubt? Yes," said Edmonton police Const. Ian Brooks of the testing parameters.

Statistics provided by the B.C. Ministry of Transportation last month also indicate a sharp dropoff in the number of Criminal Code charges laid after enhanced administrative measures were introduced in that province last year.

● JEREMY NOLAIS

1 news



The theft of \$17,000 worth of gift certificates adds insult to the still-fresh injury of flood victims in Quebec. Scan code for story.

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On the web

Scouts Canada offers public apology to all former members who suffered abuse at the hands of volunteer leaders. Video at metronews.ca/video

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Improper practices alleged at Paxton trial

Three people have now testified that a police officer in the gallery was signalling key witnesses during the torture trial of Dustin Paxton.

Paxton is charged with torturing and sexually assaulting his roommate and business partner over an 18-month period dating back to October 2008.

Lawyer Ola Malik, who, out of curiosity, ventured into the courtroom during Paxton's trial on Sept. 30, testified Thursday that he saw a Calgary officer repeatedly nodding his head as a witness gave testimony. Two previous witnesses have testified to similar occurrences.

Arguments are ongoing in a stay-of-proceedings hearing to address concerns Paxton's charter rights were violated.

● METRO

Man killed in high-speed crash

A vehicle that slammed into a concrete barrier late Wednesday was travelling at more than double the posted speed limit, police say. Two men were rushed to hospital where one died. The other was in critical condition Thursday. The car's impact with the barrier was so powerful that its engine was vaulted into a nearby yard, police said. Officers are investigating whether alcohol was a factor.

● METRO

► Mayor Naheed Nenshi symbolically cuts red tape on Thursday alongside Michael Flynn, left, of the Urban Development Institute and Ben Brunnen, chief economist with the Calgary Chamber of Commerce.



Nenshi pledges to cut red tape for businesses

► Mayor Naheed Nenshi launched the first phase of the initiative in March ► City employees submitted more than 180 suggestions



KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Members of the business community say they will hold the mayor accountable to ensure his scissors remain sharp in cutting red tape at the city.

On Thursday, Mayor Naheed Nenshi launched the second part of his Cut Red Tape initiative, which involves more than a dozen business-advocacy groups that will offer suggestions to ease processes in various industries.

For years now, said Michael Flynn, executive director of the Urban Development Institute, the approvals process at the city has become increasingly challenging.

Flynn said the development industry has suggested changes in the past, but he added, "to our knowledge, it's just sort of sat on a shelf."

This time, he said, business stakeholders are expecting change.

"This group that's assembled here, we intended to hold the mayor account-

able to this initiative and I think the citizens should do the same because everyone will benefit."

Nenshi said success, in the end, will be measured by service improvements for Calgarians.

"What we're really working on is a broader aspect of cultural change and flipping around people's mindsets toward 'My job is to solve a problem for a citizen so that that citizen can succeed,' rather than 'My job is to make sure that every process is followed.'"

Bureau-crazy

- Entrepreneurs have until Jan. 31, 2012, to submit their suggestions for cutting red tape.
- Ideas can be offered on cutredtape.ca or by calling 311.
- The third phase of the Cut Red Tape initiative will be launched next year.

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CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO



► Supt. Richard Hinse with the Calgary Police Service, announces the launch of the joint graffiti investigation team and GraffitiFreeCalgary.ca. on Thursday.

Police call for graffiti-free city

- About 100-120 graffiti vandals are in the city: Police
- In 2009, over \$3 million was spent to clean graffiti

CANDICE WARD
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

Calgary police have declared war on graffiti vandals in the city.

The announcement of a new graffiti investigation team comes after charging a man for allegedly vandalizing a memorial warship at the Calgary Soldiers' Memorial on Memorial Drive.

"I think it hurts us all," said Bill Bruce, of Animal and Bylaw Services.

Calgary police have since

\$5,000 is the amount in fines graffiti vandalism could lead to.

charged Neil Grinham, 18, with 23 counts of mischief. By joining forces with Calgary Transit and City of Calgary Animal and Bylaw Services, the Calgary police have launched the Joint Graffiti Investigation Team to crack down on graffiti vandalism.

Police have made significant progress on a number

of graffiti cases by noticing a common theme or tag within them.

"A tag is almost like a fingerprint," said Const. Dave Ladic, with the CPS.

Along with the announcement of the investigation team, comes the launch of the GraffitiFreeCalgary.ca website.

The website offers citizens tips on what to do if you have encountered graffiti vandalism in your community and what to do if you think your youth may be involved.

Snake death leads to zoo keeper's resignation

KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Failure to follow instructions resulted in the death of a snake at the Calgary Zoo and the resignation of a long-time keeper.

After an investigation and disciplinary hearing, the zoo announced yesterday human error resulted in the death of a corn snake.

Laurie Skene, manager of communications, explained that an accessible heating source was required to allow the animal to increase its metabolism before eating.

The keeper, who had worked at the zoo for many years, did not follow instructions.

"There are protocols in place for general species but there were also handwritten instructions from the veterinarian," said Skene. "It wasn't a case of training lack of procedures being in place, it was just not following."

A post-mortem examination determined the cause of death was hyperthermic shock.

"It doesn't matter if it's a snake or a tiger, the animals in our collection are important to us and ... the people that are responsible for taking care of them, we certainly expect them to follow the procedures."

The corn snake died on Oct. 9.

Animal deaths

- The Calgary Zoo has had several animal deaths in recent years.
- An audit of the facility released in 2010 determined multiple incidents were caused by human error.
- In 2009, a giant rodent known as a capybara was killed after being crushed by a hydraulic door.
- In addition, a wild goat called a Turkmenian markhor was caught in a rope in its enclosure and strangled.
- 41 cownose stingrays also died in 2008. It was determined a lack of oxygen was likely to blame.

RCMP shutdown grow-op in Chestermere

Chestermere RCMP executed a search warrant and seized more than 200 marijuana plants earlier this week.

According to a news release, the total value of the marijuana plants was \$290,000.

Investigators believe some of the plants may have been recently harvested.

● METRO

Rooftop camping raises more than \$20K

Three days camping on the roof of the Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre raised more than \$20,000.

The two staff members who braved the cold received plenty of donations for their charitable efforts.

Louise Gallagher and Dave Tod began camping on Dec. 5, climbing down on Dec. 8.

● METRO

Arrests may be in store for Occupy protesters

Despite a court order to vacate Olympic Plaza by Friday at 2 p.m., several demonstrators say they plan to stay.

Judgement issued by Justice Neil Whitman on Tuesday states bylaw officers have the authority to remove tents from the plaza and anyone who interferes with enforcement may be arrested.

● METRO

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more with Occupy Calgary.

Daytime Checkstops return to Calgary streets

► First afternoon-enforcement session of the holiday season was held
Thursday ► Nighttime policing efforts will also continue



**JEREMY
NOLAÏS**
@METRONEWS.CA

Daytime efforts by police to nab impaired drivers this holiday season already seem to be paying off.

A 45-minute Checkstop Thursday afternoon along a busy stretch of 16th Avenue Northeast yielded one arrest — a male motorist suspected of being under the influence of marijuana.

"It's getting the message out to the public that this is not an accepted practice, impaired driving," said acting police Insp. Michael Watterston.

While Alberta's strengthened impaired-driving laws will likely not come into effect for months, police still have the ability to slap a motorist with a 24-hour suspension if they provide a blood-alcohol reading be-

► Calgary police and Alberta Sheriffs usher cars into a Checkstop zone along 16th Avenue Northeast Thursday.



tween .05 and .08. Any drivers with a higher reading can face criminal charges.

"It's a deterrent," said Mothers Against Drunk Driving Canada president Denise Dubyk of the day-

time Checkstops. "People know the police are going to be out there and there's office parties and lunchtime. People who have had a few drinks with lunch may very well take the bus or train home."

Why and how

► This year, nine people have been killed in crashes on Calgary roads where alcohol was believed to be a factor.

► Calgary police will conduct daytime Checkstops from noon to 8 p.m. four days a week until Dec. 23.

Last year, more than 6,400 motorists passed through daytime Checkstops in Calgary in the month of December. Of those, 88 individuals required a roadside test and three were charged with refusal to provide a breath sample. As well, 31 motorists were handed one-day suspensions.

"One fatality on the streets is one fatality too many, and we want to do what we can to avoid that," Watterston said.

TAXI OR NOT, LET'S ALL GET HOME SAFE

IN DEFENCE OF

MIKE MORRISON
METRO CALGARY



It's the time of year when we all feel like celebrating.

Yes, many of Calgary's most popular restaurants and bars are packed with people partaking in fantastic parties, the likes of which haven't been seen since William and Kate came for a visit. But whether big or small, all parties have one thing in common: it's pretty much

"When in doubt, always go to a hotel. You get to stay warm inside, while someone else gets the cab for you."

a guarantee that a cab won't be waiting for any of us outside.

In a city of more than a million people, you would think that there would be an abundance of taxis, but during this busy time of year of shopping and celebrating, there never seem to be any. On any given night, my Facebook and Twitter feeds are polluted with people lamenting their struggles of trying to get back home after a night out.

So where are all the big yellow taxis? Well, I suspect the suburbs. It seems

the holiday season is one of the few times a year that those who live in our city's extremities like to go out. And when it comes to closing time, the residences of neighbourhoods like Bridlewood or Royal Oak always seem to be the first ones to take your cab and magically make them disappear for at least an hour.

Not that it's necessarily their fault. With the C-Trains closing before the bars do, what else are they supposed to do? I mean, my apartment has only so many couches on which those of my friends who choose to live by man-made lakes can sleep it off.

If during the busy holiday season the C-Trains were allowed to stay open longer, as they do during Stampede, the suburbanites wouldn't be forced to

take the precious few cabs on trips long enough that they could easily be mistaken for road trips.

Having been a victim of this city's lack of cabs more times than I can count, I've come up with some ways of being able to snag one of those coveted yellow taxis without having to hang out with the dreaded designated driver.

When in doubt, always go to a hotel. You get to stay warm inside while someone else gets the cab for you. You could also decide to leave a little bit before the bar closes, because — let's be honest — if you haven't met someone by 1:30 a.m., another half hour won't make a difference.

Whatever you do, just make sure you get home safe. Or find out where I live, I have incredibly soft carpet.

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Food Network says you gotta eat in #yyc

► You Gotta Eat Here! will premiere in January ► Crew has been filming in Calgary this week and next week



KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Hotdogs, french toast and a doughnut named after Mayor Nenshi are just a few of the items that will be showcased on a new Food Network show currently taping in Calgary.

Food Network Canada is in town filming at five popular Calgary eateries for a new show called You Gotta Eat Here!

Vince Wong, co-owner of Diner Deluxe, said after purchasing the restaurant seven months ago, a call from the Food Network was unexpected.

"Getting exposure like that is great for business," he said, adding the camera crews have been in-

Also featuring...

Two other Calgary restaurants will be featured:

► Pfanntastic Pannenkoek Haus will appear on the show.

► Silver Inn Restaurant, the alleged birthplace of ginger beef, will also be taping for the show.

side the restaurant for the past two days. It's a busy place already, it just adds to it."

Jelly Modern Donuts co-owner Rita Tripathy said Calgarians have been behind their business since they opened in April, but this is the icing

on the doughnut.

"It's just sort of reinforcement for our whole model, which is trying to use local, good-quality ingredients."

Taping at Jelly will take place on Monday and Tuesday, and Tripathy said she's hoping the mayor will swing by for a Nenshi salted-caramel doughnut.

Beginning Friday, 17th Avenue's Tubby Dog will be behind the lens, showing off the classic Tubby Dog and infamous A-Bomb.

"It's great," said manager James Hill. "We're stoked on it."



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► Tubby Dog employee Geneva Haley shows off the A-Bomb, one of many Calgary food items that will be featured on a new Food Network Canada show.



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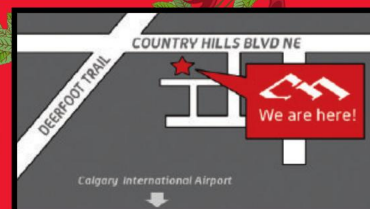


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WOUNDED MOUNTIES

Man charged in shootout

An Alberta man has been released from hospital and arrested on several charges following a shootout with RCMP.

Bradley Wayne Beaver, who is 38, faces three counts of attempted murder, two counts of endangering the life of a peace officer and several counts

on weapons offences.

An RCMP emergency response team was called to a mobile home last weekend near Breton, southwest of Edmonton, following a report that a man had been shot.

A corporal suffered superficial wounds to his hand and shoulder, and is recovering at home.

A staff sergeant with more than 30 years of experience had surgery to remove a bullet from his shoulder and was to be released from hospital Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Accused dad support page gone

A Facebook page supporting a central Alberta man charged in the death of his four-month-old daughter is no longer online.

A site called "In Support of Julian

Thomson" had 61 members Wednesday, but is now gone.

Thomson was charged with second-degree murder after his daughter Zaria McCall died of undisclosed head injuries last month.

It's unclear whether Facebook officials shut the site down or if it was removed by its creator.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Santa has brigade of elves



CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

► This is the firefighters' 44th annual toy fundraiser ► Party to be held at the Stampede Corral



CANDICE WARD
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

Santa is getting a little help from a few fire-fighting friends this festive season.

Santa made an early-season stop at the Signal Hill Fire Station Thursday to pick up some gifts for this year's Calgary Firefighters Toy Association Party.

"It is a tremendous event," said Jamie Blayney, firefighter and president of the Calgary Firefighters Toy Association.

Santa did not arrive at the fire hall in his regular sled, but came by fire engine to collect the toys.

The annual party is the largest Christmas event of its kind in Canada and gives about 4,500 local chil-

Toy drive history

- The association was first launched in the 1940's.
- Members in the '40s used to clean and repair used toys to donate.

dren toys for Christmas.

More than 1,800 local families have been invited to the party and will be treated to festive food, fun and a visit from Santa.

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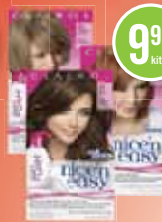
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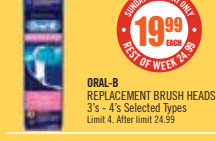
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**SHOPPERS
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Beer lovers screaming IKEA

► Restaurant to begin serving alcoholic beverages



JEREMY NOLAÏS
@METRONEWS.CA

Does beer and wine mix well with bassinets and washroom appliances?

IKEA Calgary shoppers are about to find out: the southeast store is reintroducing alcohol to its restaurant menu next May.

Beer and wine from a yet-to-be-revealed provider will be served out of the interior restaurant to customers venturing in for everything from a few wooden nails to full kitchen appliances.

Suds have been served up at the store in the past, but that practice was halted a few years ago, said spokesperson Darren McArthur.

What kind?

► While the brands of alcohol to be offered at the IKEA have not been specified, reports surfaced earlier in the week that the Ottawa location is offering Mill Street Brewery beer.

"We discontinued service of alcohol in our restaurant for the safety and security of our customers and co-workers as with the Alberta employment boom a few years ago," he said in an email. "We were unable to secure restaurant check-out co-workers over the age of 18."

Now, in somewhat non-boom times, the booze is returning, but customer

reaction to the news was mixed Thursday.

"Sounds like a great idea to me," said 24-year-old Cory Serediuk before reflecting for a moment on his own habits. "I would not come here to drink."

IKEA shopper Julie Elliot was confused by the move.

"I don't think it is a great idea, but I guess if someone wants a beer with their meatballs, what can you say?" she said.

McArthur said the store's decision comes as part of a goal to provide amenities for customers of every age.

"We know that, like any other full-service restaurant in Calgary, some of our customers wish to have an alcoholic beverage with their meals," McArthur said.

WITH FILES FROM CANDICE WARD



► Who needs a pub? IKEA Calgary will begin offering beer and wine to customers in May.

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Policeman killed at Virginia Tech

► Gunman found dead in parking lot ► Campus was quieter as classes ended Wednesday

A gunman killed a Virginia Tech police officer Thursday at a campus parking lot and then apparently shot himself to death nearby in a baffling attack that shook up the school nearly five years after it was the scene of the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history.

Before it became clear that the gunman in Thursday's attack was dead, the school applied the lessons learned during the last tragedy, locking down the campus and using a high-tech alert system to warn students and faculty members to stay indoors.

The officer was killed after pulling a driver over in a traffic stop. The gunman — who was not involved in the traffic stop — walked in-

"It's crazy that someone would go and do something like that with all the stuff that happened in 2007."

COREY SMITH, 19-YEAR-OLD SOPHOMORE

to the parking lot and ambushed the officer. Police did not know what the motive was.

The officer was identified as Deriek W. Crouse, a 39-year-old Army veteran and married father of five who joined the campus police force about six months after the 2007 massacre, the school said. He previously worked at a jail and a sheriff's department.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► A police officer secures the scene where a gunman killed a police officer after a traffic stop Thursday, on the campus of Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Va.

MATT GENTRY/THE ROANOKE TIMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shafia says he was a loving and lenient father

A man accused of killing his three daughters over family honour portrayed himself Thursday as a loving, benevolent and lenient father, even though his children were cruel to him.

The picture Mohammad

Shafia painted of himself as he took the stand at his murder trial was in stark contrast to evidence the jury has heard from Crown witnesses. Court has heard that his children were afraid of him, begging au-



► Mohammad Shafia

thorities to remove them from the home, and that he cursed them as treacherous on wiretaps secretly recorded after their deaths.

What Shafia meant, when he was recorded on the wiretaps saying that

even if the girls came back to life 100 times he would "do the same again," is that he would continue to give them good advice, he told court. Shafia and his wife, Tooba Yahya, 41, and their son Hamed, 20, have each

pleaded not guilty to four counts of first-degree murder. They're accused of killing Zainab, 19, Sahar, 17 and Geeti Shafia, 13, and Rona Amir Mohammad, 52, Shafia's first wife.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Attawapiskat on the hook for finance consultant

► Troubled reserve must pay federally appointed manager \$180K

The federal government is forcing the troubled Attawapiskat First Nation to pay a private-sector consultant about \$1,300 a day to run its finances — even though the government's own assessments say the third-party management system is not cost-effective.

Aboriginal Affairs officials told The Canadian Press they have an agreement to pay Jacques Marion of BDO Canada LLP a total of \$180,000 to look after the reserve's accounts from now until June 30.

The money comes from the Attawapiskat First Nation's budget.

That rate over the course of a year would run up to \$300,000 and easily pay for at least one nice, solid



► The remains of a Canadian flag can be seen flying over a building in Attawapiskat, Ont., on Nov. 29.

house, notes Mushkegowuk Grand Chief Stan Louttit.

"And (Aboriginal Affairs) should pay for this over and above First Nations existing budgets," he said.

Instead, the band will soon find itself cutting off educational assistants and

aides for special-needs children in order to scrape together the money to pay the consultant, said New Democrat MP Charlie Angus, whose northern Ontario riding includes Attawapiskat.

But Prime Minister

"What they've done is taken \$300,000 out of this band's limited budget for political cover to pay for the mistakes of an incompetent minister."

NEW DEMOCRAT MP CHARLIE ANGUS

Stephen Harper brushed aside criticism of the fees and requests from the opposition to cover the costs. Harper told the House of Commons the government is just making sure the band council in Attawapiskat stops mismanaging taxpayers' money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EXPLOITATION TARGETED

New child porn law puts onus on Internet providers

A new law aimed at curbing child pornography on the Internet is now in force.

The law requires Internet service providers to report tips they get about websites containing child

porn.

They also have to tell police if they believe a child porn offence has been committed using their service.

Failure to comply carries fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$100,000 or jail time for repeat offenders.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says the exploitation of children by online sexual predators is a serious crime.

The government says the law balances privacy concerns with the need to tackle the issue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Co-workers claim \$21M jackpot

A jovial bunch of co-workers from Penetanguishene, Ont., picked up a \$21-million prize Thursday after winning a Lotto Max jackpot.

Each of the 12 mental-health workers, who range in age from 33 to 63 and said they were all great friends outside of work, will get \$1.75 million from the Nov. 25 draw.

Most in the group said they would be returning to their jobs despite their new riches, although one or two plan to retire.

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Clinton instigated protests: Putin

► Says U.S. spending hundreds of millions of dollars to influence Russian politics ► Clinton stands by criticism

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, facing the possibility of nationwide protests against his rule, on Thursday accused U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton of instigating demonstrators in the wake of the disputed parliamentary election.

The comments came as opposition supporters largely stayed off the streets after three nights of sizeable protests. No protests were seen in Moscow and only a small one where 10 people were arrested was reported in St. Petersburg.

But the wave of discontent — which has already undercut Putin's public persona of being both strong

Blame game

► Putin's attempt to rally support by blaming the United States for his troubles would find little support among ordinary Russians, said political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin.

► "Even in Soviet times, it did not work," Oreshkin said. "Now it won't work for sure."

and beloved — may be far from cresting. More than 30,000 people have promised on a Facebook page to attend a Saturday protest in Moscow and similar rallies have been called for more than 70 other cities.

Putin, in televised remarks, accused the U.S. of encouraging and funding the Russians protesting the alleged election fraud in Sunday's elections. By recently describing Russia's election as rigged, Clinton "gave a signal" to his opponents, said Putin, who also warned of a wider Russian crackdown on dissent.

"They heard this signal and with the support of the U.S. State Department began their active work," Putin said.

Moscow has already put about 50,000 police and 2,000 paramilitary troops on the streets, backed by water cannons.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► People pose with a protester wearing a mock mask depicting Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin during a rally in downtown St. Petersburg, Russia, on Thursday.

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DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Internet used to mobilize people

Aside from a mass protest near the Kremlin on Saturday called for by opposition groups to demand a vote recount, a map circulating on the Internet shows similar protests planned for Saturday in more than 75 cities around Russia, while a page on LiveJournal lists more planned protests in 15 countries around the world.

The use of the Internet to mobilize protesters in Russia is a new phenomenon.

Anton Nossik, a popular blogger and Internet expert, said it was not the Internet that energized the protesters but the brazen vote rigging that prompted many young Russians to express their discontent of-line.

"They came out not because they read information (online) on where to show up for the first time,

"I used to express my opinion in my blog, in social networks, I wasn't really politically active. But enough is enough. I am fed up with all of this."

ARTYOM GORYACHEV, 27-YEAR-OLD
PR MANAGER, WHO PLANNED TO
ATTEND SATURDAY'S PROTEST

but because for the first time many people got the feeling that the time had come for that," Nossik said.

Sam Greene, director of the Center for the Study of New Media and Society in Moscow, said this week's protests in Moscow were a combination of online and offline social networks working together.

"They're going out to protests with people they know, with people they trust," he said.

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► Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has had an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appear on his Twitter account.

Tasteless tweet raises Russia's ire

► Offending retweet of a post by United Russia ideologue has been removed from Medvedev's account

President Dmitry Medvedev's affection for going online has turned off-colour after an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appeared on his Twitter account.

Medvedev's tweets are usually bland, such as congratulating victorious sports teams. So the post describing popular opposition figure Alexei Navalny as a sheep engaging in an unprintable sexual act

sparked huge attention.

A Kremlin statement says the message, a retweet of a posting by United Russia party ideologue and former parliament member Konstantin Rykov, was posted by an unnamed member of the president's technical staff.

The post, late Tuesday, came on the second straight day of large demonstrations by protesters over the vote fraud seen

in Russia's parliamentary election Sunday.

The post does not mention Navalny by name, but clearly refers to him, denouncing the phrase the "party of crooks and thieves" that Navalny popularized on his blog to characterize United Russia.

Navalny was arrested Monday on the first night of protests in Moscow and sentenced to 15 days in jail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WEEKEND, DECEMBER 9-11, 2011



► Green Lantern, starring Ryan Reynolds, was recently released on UltraViolet.

New movie platform getting poor reviews

- Users say Warner's UltraViolet doesn't deliver
- Confused consumers complain on Twitter

Warner Bros. is learning a hard lesson about launching an ill-conceived product in the age of social media.

When the studio introduced its first movies on the new "UltraViolet" format in October, consumers were led to believe they could buy a DVD or Blu-ray, register their ownership of the movie on the UltraViolet website and then receive — at no extra cost — a digital version that could play on their computer, tablet or mobile phone.

The studio's aim was to encourage people to purchase movies rather than rent them or subscribe to a

streaming service. But UltraViolet didn't work as advertised.

Some users were confused because the process required them to register on the UltraViolet website as well as on another website called Flixster, a movie site owned by Warner Bros. Users had to install special software before they could view movies on their computers. To make matters worse, it didn't work as advertised for owners of Apple's iPhones and iPads.

Within days, befuddled consumers took to Twitter and the Internet to complain. Jarren Wood, an art student from Atlanta,

tweeted that he felt "conned" and called UltraViolet "a horrible hoax." Blogger Bryan Darrow tweeted, "Flixster sucks. I want my digital copy."

Among thousands of posts about UltraViolet on social-media sites in the weeks following the Oct. 11 launch, only 3 per cent of comments were positive, according to Fizziology, a company that tracks buzz related to Hollywood movie releases. Some 17 per cent were negative and the rest were neutral. That's on par with the worst product receptions the firm has ever seen.

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No link between abortion, anxiety

► Study finds unwanted pregnancies, not abortion, trigger mental-health issues in women

Abortion does not increase a woman's chance of developing mental-health problems, according to the largest study ever to investigate the issue.

Among women with unwanted pregnancies, those who had abortions were no more likely to suffer from problems including anxiety or depression than women who gave birth, the research review by the U.K.'s National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health found.

The research shows the "reassuring news" that abortion does not cause mental-health problems, but raises a warning that officials must address the

"We should be looking at what it is about the unwanted pregnancy stage that is so problematic. We need to try to get those women help sooner so they're not put at greater risk."

DR. TIM KENDALL,

problem of unwanted pregnancy, said Dr. Tim Kendall, the centre's director.

The study is likely to be met by skepticism by those opposed to the practice and believe that terminating a pregnancy can trigger depression or other mental illnesses.

Kendall said mental health problems seemed to be linked specifically to unwanted pregnancies rather

than abortion.

About 11 to 12 per cent of women in general suffer from mental-health issues like anxiety or depression, but among women with unwanted pregnancies that figure rises to about one-third, he said. For women who later had an abortion, there did not appear to be any increase in their rate of mental-health problems.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ad. Backtrack

► This undated image shows a Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board ad meant to warn young adults about the connection between heavy drinking and rape.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquor board pulls controversial ad

A spokeswoman for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board says the ad was pulled Wednesday after complaints that it blamed women for being victims.

Obama backs idea to keep Plan B off shelves

President Barack Obama on Thursday defended his health secretary's decision

to stop the Plan B morning-after pill from moving onto drugstore shelves next to condoms.

As the father of two daughters," he said, "I think it is important for us to make sure that we apply some common sense to various rules when it comes to over-the-counter

medicine."

The president spoke the day after his administration stunned doctors' groups and women's health advocates with the decision.

Plan B is a pill that can prevent pregnancy if taken soon after unprotected sex.

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WEEKEND, DECEMBER 9-11, 2011

Lawyer, justices square off over niqab

► Lawmakers hoping to chart a course for future trials with outcome in case involving alleged rape victim

The lawyer for a woman who wants to wear a niqab while facing her accused rapists fielded pointed questions Thursday from justices of the Supreme Court of Canada. The nature of the questions suggested several high court judges believe wearing the niqab during a trial may compromise the right to a fair trial.

Judges, lawyers and juries have long used changes in facial expressions to gauge a witness's credibility while testifying. A niqab covers the entire face, leaving only the eyes visible, making it difficult for lawyers and juries to read any nuances or changes in expression.

An Ontario woman identified only as N.S. says her

Muslim faith dictates that she wear her niqab in public, including during the trial of two men who allegedly sexually assaulted her.

David Butt, the lawyer for N.S., told the justices that denying his client's right to wear a niqab would amount to imposing a special religious penalty on Muslims. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Pilot. History



► On the left, Mary Helen Foster is seen on a plane during her time in the Women Air Force Service Pilots program during the Second World War. On the right, Foster, 90, poses near her home in The Woodlands, Texas, on Dec. 1.



LEFT: THE COURIER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; RIGHT: ERIC S. SWIST/THE COURIER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flight of the fearless females

Mary Helen Foster was one of more than 1,700 women chosen for the groundbreaking Women Air Force Service Pilots program during the Second World War. The program allowed women to test aircraft undergoing maintenance and train pilots to allow men to fly in combat.

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Hunted saves hunter's life

► Married couple shoots and skins moose calf after getting lost in a hunting trip ► Uses hide as a blanket

Steve and Sheila Joyce of Steady Brook, N.L., were hunting Tuesday afternoon when they wounded a moose calf and then became disoriented while tracking it through the woods between Corner Brook and Bonne Bay.

As dusk fell and the temperature dropped to a few degrees above freezing, they realized they were hopelessly lost.

That's when they suddenly came upon the wounded calf and killed it, a recovering Sheila Joyce said Thursday from their home. They used its skin to keep warm through the night.

Joyce, in her mid-40s, has hunted with her husband for the last several years.

They had followed a blood trail from where they had wounded the calf near their SUV.

Their food and water was in the vehicle and her husband had set down their survival pack as they tracked the animal for what they thought would



► In this handout photo, Steve Joyce wears a moose hide as a life-saving blanket. Joyce and his wife, Sheila, spent a cold night lost in the woods of western Newfoundland during a hunting trip.

"We never would have made it through the night because we were both wet, shivery and cold."

SHEILA JOYCE

be a brief chase, she explained.

"We could see the Jeep from there — so we didn't think there was any possibility of getting lost when we went into those woods," said Joyce.

The couple's son, who searched through the

night, alerted nearby hunters, who fired a shot into the air to find them.

The couple sent back an answering blast and was soon rescued.

They were briefly checked into a hospital and are now home.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHILD ABUSE

Scouts Canada apologizes

In a solemn six-minute video posted online Thursday, Scouts Canada offered a public apology to all former members who may have "suffered harm" at the hands of volunteer leaders in the past and announced a third-party review of its records relating to abuse.

"Our sincere efforts to

prevent such crimes have not always succeeded. We are sorry for that," chief commissioner Steve Kent said in the YouTube video. "We are saddened at any resulting harm. Our most profound sympathies extend to all victims and to their families."

Kent's words came weeks after a report on CBC's Fifth Estate alleged Scouts Canada maintained a list of suspected pedophiles and did not share it with authorities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apology rings hollow

Japan's apology to Canadian veterans who suffered brutal treatment in prisoner of war camps during the Second World War is too late to be of significant meaning, veterans said Thursday. During the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong, Japan's parliamentary vice-minister for foreign affairs apologized for the mistreatment of survivors who spent years toiling in labour camps.

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CREDITCALGARY.COMWorld's oldest
living dog dies

► Pusuke passed away at the age of 26, or about 125 in human years, outside of Tokyo after falling ill

A dog believed to be the world's oldest living dog has died in Japan at the age of 26 years and eight months.

Owner Yumiko Shinohara told reporters at her home in Sakura, a city outside Tokyo, that Pusuke, a fluffy tan Shiba mix, died Monday after falling ill and refusing to eat.

Shinohara told TV network FNN that she "would just like to thank him for staying alive so long." The report said Pusuke's lifespan would have been the equivalent of about 125 years for a human.

According to Guinness World Records, the dog was born April 1, 1985. He was recognized as the world's oldest living dog last December. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

YUMIKO SHINOHARA/GETTY IMAGES

Yumiko Shinohara holds
Pusuke last December.

For the record

► The Guinness World Record for canine longevity belongs to an Australian cattle dog by the name of Bluey, owned by Les and Esma Hall from Victoria, Australia

► Bluey was obtained as a puppy in 1910 and worked herding cattle and sheep before he passed away at the age of 29 years and five months.

► He was put to sleep on Nov. 14, 1939.

FINDING

Predators
scare
animals to
death: Study

The fear of predators takes as heavy a toll on prey animals as does actually being eaten, says a study published Thursday.

In a finding that could affect wildlife management from wolves and elk to domestic cats and song-

birds, a pair of Canadian researchers have found that the stress of living where they could be devoured at any time could be the biggest single limiting factor on animal populations that are regularly hunted. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**12 DAYS OF
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Coca-Cola keeps secret formula at arm's length

► Beverage maker said a vault containing drink's formula will be on display ► Formula will remain secret

The Coca-Cola Co. has made its secret formula the centre-piece of a new exhibit at its corporate museum, ditching the confines of the bank vault where the list of ingredients had been stored since 1925.

A new vault containing the formula will be on display for visitors to its World of Coca-Cola museum in downtown Atlanta. However, the formula, which dates back to 1886, will remain hidden from view.

Atlanta-based Coca-Cola said the decision to move the formula from a vault at



SunTrust Banks Inc. had nothing to do with the bank's decision in 2007 to begin selling its long-held stake in Coca-Cola.

The bank, which provided underwriting services to Coca-Cola when it went public in 1919 and received some of Coca-Cola's first publicly traded stock, at one time held more than 48 million Coca-Cola shares.

"The time has come for our secret formula to come back home," said CEO Muhtar Kent.

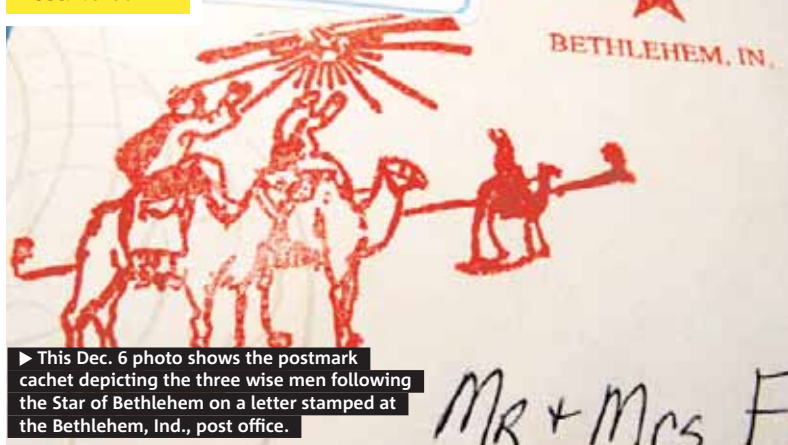
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fancy Exhibit

Coca-Cola is all about marketing, and that was on full display at the museum Thursday.

- Attendees watched a video of Kent placing a metal box, which the company says contains the formula, inside a five-foot-high safe several days ago and locking it.
- A cylindrical room contains a giant vault with a keypad and a hand-imprint scanner. Coke officials wouldn't say if the keypad and scanner were for show or were security measures.

Post. Cards



► This Dec. 6 photo shows the postmark cachet depicting the three wise men following the Star of Bethlehem on a letter stamped at the Bethlehem, Ind., post office.

RICK CALLAHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Traditional cards may not survive cuts

For decades, the post office in this little town of Bethlehem has been the Christmas destination for thousands of cards from around the world, each seeking a red-inked imprint depicting the three wise men following a star. The stamps could soon be a Christmas memory with the shutdown of about a half-dozen locations with Christmas-themed names.

High hopes for Africa

Virgin Atlantic billionaire Richard Branson sat in a car for two hours on Thursday, snarled in Nairobi's maddening traffic while trying to reach a conference where business leaders discussed the barriers to commercial success in Africa.

The continent's

roadways — not surprisingly — were near the top of the complaints from participants in the daylong event. One investor noted that in order to ship her goods from West Africa to East Africa her products had to transit through Europe.

Africa appears poised on the edge of a business boom and its leaders predict high returns for international investors. But hurdles remain, including

corruption by politicians and other government workers, access to reliable high-speed Internet, unreliable electricity and, yes, the continent's poor highway infrastructure.

Branson said the leaders of African countries must be above corruption, or it will ricochet down to the police and customs agents. But he remains optimistic about the continent's future. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Cuba.....89.9¢/min	Pakistan.....5.9¢/min	Ukraine.....7.9¢/min
El Salvador.....9.9¢/min	Philippines.....11.9¢/min	U.K.....2.9¢/min
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JEROME DELAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► An opposition supporter is grabbed by a Congolese riot police officer outside Opposition Leader Etienne Tshisekedi's headquarters in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, yesterday.

Violence brewing in Congo

► Partial results gave President Kabila a 14-point over Opposition Leader Tshisekedi

After days of tension, anxiety remained high that Congo would descend into violence, with supporters of opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi vowing to take to the streets if President Joseph Kabila is declared the winner.

Outside the headquarters of Tshisekedi's party, police fired tear gas and live rounds to push back the agitated crowd earlier in the day, witnesses said.

Victory seemed certain for the incumbent based on partial returns. Those

results, representing 90 per cent of the vote cast, gave Kabila a more than 14-point lead over Tshisekedi, who had 34 per cent.

In the capital's best hotel, Kabila's supporters were already holding a victory celebration before the election commission had named the winner.

Instead of issuing results as promised Thursday, the country's election commission chief called a hasty news conference to announce another one-day postponement.

"We need to double-check the results," Daniel

Ngoy Mulunda said late Thursday. "We are before a very demanding public."

A spokesman for Tshisekedi's party continued to say that Tshisekedi, not Kabila, had won and appealed to supporters to fight for their victory.

The election was marred from the start by massive technical shortcomings.

The election commission failed to meet its Tuesday deadline for releasing results. They announced a 48-hour extension, which has now turned into a 72-hour one.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Europe's banks face higher target

European banks have to raise about €115 billion to meet a new standard meant to inoculate the lenders against market turmoil, including bad government debt, a regulator said Thursday.

That's about €8 billion more than what the European Banking Authority previously estimated, and bank stocks around the continent plummeted as rumours of the figure circulated during late trading Thursday.

European banks have billions of euros of risky government bonds on their books, and, as the continent's crisis has deepened, investors have become increasingly concerned the lenders won't be able to weather all of the expected losses on those loans. That, in turn, has made banks wary of lending to one another — since they worry that one of their numbers could go under at any moment. When banks stop lending to one another and businesses, the entire economy seizes up.

In order to restore confidence in the banks and hopefully restart more normal lending, European Union leaders decided in October to force banks to

Target by country

Germany was hit the hardest. Its banks were asked to raise €13.1 billion — a dramatic increase from the previous €5.1 billion.

► Greece is still in lead at €30 billion, Spain follows with €26.2 billion, and Italy needs to hit a €15.4 billion target.

► France's banks fared well with a target of €7.3 billion, down from €8.8 billion.

raise more money to reassure markets that they're prepared to weather coming storms.

The increase is largely due to a new calculation of the value of the bonds the banks hold: The previous estimate looked at the bonds' June value, while the new one takes into account the prices from the end of September. The value of many loans plummeted during the summer.

The money needs to be raised in order for banks to reach a nine per cent core Tier 1 capital ratio by the end of June — a measure of how much good capital a bank holds compared with its risky investments.

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China court rejects Apple lawsuit

A court in southern China has rejected a claim by Apple Inc. that a Taiwanese-owned company has infringed its iPad trademark, a ruling that could threaten U.S. company's sales of its tablet computer in the country.

The court said on its website that it dismissed a lawsuit on Monday by Apple against Shenzhen Provview Technology over the ownership of the iPad trademark.

The court has ruled that the Shenzhen company is not bound by a 2009 agreement that its Taiwanese affiliate made with Apple to transfer the trademarks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yahoo wins \$627M in scam case

Yahoo says it has won a \$627 million court judgment in a scam that tried to dupe people into believing they had won prizes in a bogus lottery sponsored by the Internet company.

Yahoo said a New York federal court issued the default judgment on Monday.

Collecting judgments in such cases can be a frustrating and fruitless exercise because online swindlers are often difficult to find.

Actually receiving the \$627 million would help boost the fortunes of the Internet company, which has struggled in recent months. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economy at risk from Euro crisis, BoC says

► Potential for 'adverse shock' increased: Bank of Canada

Canadians need to start worrying about the worsening debt mess in Europe and its ability to hit hard in this country, the Bank of Canada warned Thursday in its semi-annual financial stability review.

"The (bank's) governing council judges that the risks to the stability of Canada's financial system are high and have increased markedly over the past six months," the central bank stated.

"Since June, the global retrenchment of risk associated with the European crisis has indeed resulted

in a significant correction in the prices of equities and other risky assets, as well as a widening of credit spreads in Canada."

Frankly, the bank said, measures currently undertaken to bring the European debt crisis under control "have repeatedly fallen short of what is needed."

On Wednesday night, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty poured cold water on an unconfirmed report that G20 nations would funnel \$600 billion US to Europe through the International Monetary Fund.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX



-196.93
(11,951.79)

Dollar



-\$1.19
(97.79¢ US)

Oil



-\$2.15 US
(\$98.34 US)

Natural gas

\$3.457 US
(+ 3.6¢ US)

Gold

\$1,713.40 US
(-\$31.40 US)

Google. Groundbreaking



► Hong Kong government representatives and Google officials pose during the groundbreaking ceremony of Google's new data centre in Hong Kong on Thursday.

KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Engineering an Asian expansion

Google says it will spend \$300 million on a new data centre in Hong Kong. The facility will be up and running by 2013, as the tech company beefs up infrastructure to keep pace with rapidly rising Internet use across Asia.

OILSANDS DEVELOPMENT

Joslyn mine gets approval

The federal government has given the green light for the Joslyn oilsands mine project to go ahead, six years after Total E&P Canada first proposed it. Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver said Thursday that construction can now begin on the mine near Fort Mc-

Murray, Alta., though there remains a two-week consultation period with local First Nations groups.

The prolonged review process for Joslyn shows the need for Canada to streamline its regulatory system, Oliver said in a statement.

Suncor Energy, Canada's largest energy company, picked up a minority interest in Joslyn late last year through a \$1.75-billion deal with the French-owned E&P.

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1 **Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra:** Classical music went all hip when Tourism Calgary and CPO, as part of its vocal warmup to a new season, asked followers on Twitter to tweet their advice for staying toasty this winter. CPO assembled the best 20 tweets, set them to an offbeat compilation version of O Fortuna, and posted their performance, Singing Tweets, to YouTube. It is believed to be the first professional Twitter chorus ever created. A tweetorus.

2 **Heroes exhibit:** Inspired by his nephew, who overcame brain cancer, artist/gallery owner Mark Gleberzon has launched an exhibit, Heroes: Real, Fictional and Close to Home, which runs through Dec. 31 at his MJG gallery in Toronto. It features works by 16 artists who have interpreted the theme "heroes," from comic book superheroes to soldiers who have given their lives to cyclists as heroes juxtaposed against city traffic. Inspiring.

3 **Canada's first Free Shipping Day:** Mark next Monday, Dec. 12 on your calendar as that's the day Free Shipping Day comes to Canada. Taking a page from the popular U.S. Free Shipping Day, it allows you to snap up last-minute deals from online merchants (see freeshippingday.ca for participating merchants) and receive free shipping with delivery by Christmas Eve. Yes, sick days and surfing online should be way up come next Monday.

4 **New Year's Eve movie:** Garry Marshall's new romantic comedy New Year's Eve opens this Friday, about love and lust on New Year's in Time Square. It stars Sarah Jessica Parker, Hilary Swank, Jessica Biel, Ashton Kutcher, Zac Efron, Halle Berry, Robert De Niro and more. As Ellen said on her show this week, "Literally everyone in the world is in this movie." In other words, this New Year's Eve better not be a bust.

5 **Own the Green Bay Packers:** They're coming off a Super Bowl win last year, and are unbeaten this year. So now is a great time for the publicly owned Green Bay Packers to set up a site PackersOwner.com, that allows Cheeseheads to buy "common stocks" (they're \$250 per share) in their storied franchise. You'll be sent a 12-inch-by-8-inch certificate so that "you will be able to display your ownership with pride," according to the site. Xmas gift. In.

6 **Top trending topics:** What the Trend, Hootsuite's trend-spotting company, evaluated more than 200,000 Twitter hashtags to determine the top trending topics of 2011. The likes of Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga and Britney Spears are a few of the celebrities that made the Top 10. Thankfully, Kim Kardashian wasn't on this list. She should be on a Not Ever Trending Again list with Paris Hilton.

7 **G N' R:** With news that seminal rock band Guns N' Roses are among those being inducted into the Rock and Roll of Hall of Fame in 2012, comes new rumours of a possible reunion. I prefer to leave their Appetite For Destruction album in 1987 in high school, and not see a bloated Axl Rose ever take the stage again with Slash to perform Sweet Child O' Mine. Like rugger pants, some things really are better left in the past.

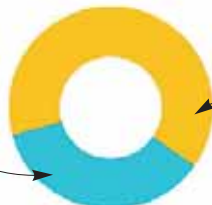
Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).



Register at
metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

Do you think Slash and Axl will share the stage at the G N' R Hall of Fame induction?

36%
OH, PLEASE,
PLEASE LET IT
BE SO



64%
NO WAY.
THERE'S TOO
MUCH HATE

Local tweets



- **@Ninja Cuteness:** #CalgaryTransit you failed w/ train service this evening. Why do you think you can charge more money than ever for less service ever? #yyc
- **@CURTMAH:** #yyc and #yyc-transit Q. Do I offer my seat to all females or only "older" ones? Also will older ladies be offended in any way?
- **@yogaismylife32:** with a friend KJ drinking wine discussing an interview heard with our mayor @nenshi - gushing over how lucky we
- **@dallaskitt:** It's game day! Off to the 'dome to make some magic happen with the #Flames Entertainment crew. #yyc
- **@CameelaToes:** Ps. Everyone in #yyc should look at the city skyline right now. #gorgeous #sunset
- **@larastone:** It's not every day you see Santa Claus walking through downtown Calgary. What a sight to see Merry Old Saint Nick. #YYC
- **@AndroidSummer:** I'm sorry but you're not a true #Flames fan unless you know who Hakan Loob is!! #yyc

Daily Zoom

What's she staring at?



Fan of the bra goes a-bungee

LONDON. She got her eyes on the prize. This female bungee jumper and self-confessed lingerie fanatic took the plunge in front of a huge projection of model Adriana Cernanova at London's landmark Battersea power station on Wednesday. The jump was to launch the new Ultimate Plunge bra by Wonderbra. ● **METRO WORLD NEWS**



"I would have never done this for pure pleasure. I only did it because I won the competition!"

HEIDI SPEED, COMPETITION WINNER

'Bungee jump? That's a prize?!'

FEAR. Heidi, 29, mother of two, was one of three women who won an online competition to do the bungee jump. "I honestly didn't know what the prize was when I entered the competition," Heidi told Metro. "I was really nervous at the top, but a guy talked to me in a calm voice and told me it would be OK." ● **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Synopsis

It's Dec. 31 and we follow the stories of Robert De Niro as a terminally ill man; Halle Berry as his kindly nurse. Then there's odd couple Michelle Pfeiffer and Zac Efron, anxiety-ridden Hillary Swank, ex-lovers Katherine Heigl and Jon Bon Jovi and even Ryan Seacrest pops up playing — who else? — himself. Have we left anyone out? Probably. There are more stars here than in the heavens, but rest assured, by the end of the movie, stories have woven together and no hearts are broken.

Ratings:
Richard: ½
Mark: 0



HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



Dropping the ball?

► Impressive collection of stars in New Year's Eve ► But film devoid of real emotion

Richard: Mark, this mish-mash of easy sentiment, romance, illness, musical numbers and product placement flip-flops from story to story so often, it's like a five-year-old grabbed the remote and is wildly channel surfing. It's not so much a movie as it is a cavalcade of familiar names in situations geared to make you understand why everybody hates Dec. 31. Am I being too cynical?

Mark Breslin: Oh, Richard, what's the matter with you? You mean you don't like shoddy writing, implausible plot lines, cameos masquerading as script development, and a general tone of emotional manipulation? The movie screams

"BOGUS" from the opening "inspiring" shots of the Statue of Liberty to the hack credit roll outtakes.

You know what's odd? I kind of liked Valentine's Day, the earlier, funnier, more touching version of this Garry Marshall shmaltzfest. Here's a challenge: did you find anything to like?

RC: Well... let me see. I thought Zac Efron was passably charming and a couple of the outtakes at the end are funnier than anything contained in the actual movie. But there are Walmart commercials with more real emotion than director Gary Marshall manages to bring to this manipulative mess.

MB: And I didn't mind the scenes between Ashton Kutcher and Lea Michele. Trapped in an elevator, at least the movie slows down long enough for a few real moments to break through. And Larry Miller was funny as the tow truck operator.

But back to the travesties: Russell Peters hiding behind an accent he swore he'd never do; Michelle Pfeiffer's stupid bucket list; Robert DeNiro's bathetic hospital scenes; but the worst was Hilary Swank's "love" speech to the assembled Times Square multitude.

I've lived in New York, and believe me, the crowd wouldn't have applauded politely — they would have

hurled obscenities at her. Which would have been a much better scene!

RC: It certainly is a New York-centric flick. Even NYC mayor Bloomberg gets into the action.

By the time he kicks off the New Year's Eve countdown with the words, "Let's drop the ball," it's already abundantly clear that Garry Marshall already dropped the ball with this movie.

MB: Very funny, Richard!

I think a better version of the movie would have been scenes of Garry Marshall convincing all those Hollywood stars to work for a fraction of their rate card.

Scene in brief



Emma Watson's advice to teenagers is: "feel comfortable in your own skin." The 21-year-old Harry Potter star, on her second visit to Hong Kong, told reporters Thursday: "Be true to who you are and do the best to feel comfortable in your own skin. You are all right exactly as you are."

METRO



Robocop actor Peter Weller joining sequel to hit Star Trek movie due out in 2013

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Downey Jr. dusts off his deerstalker

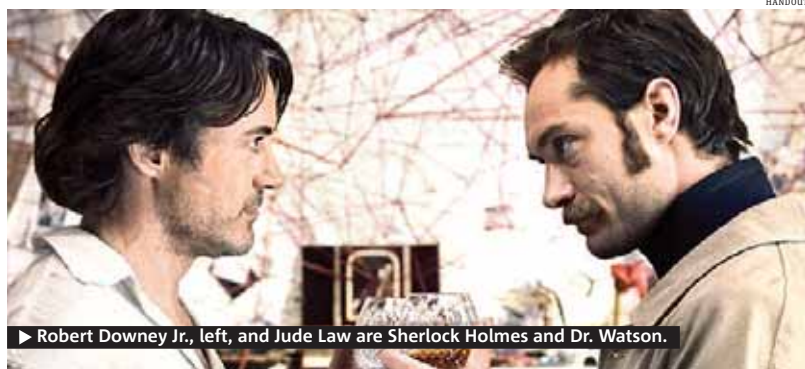
► Established actor reprises his role as Sherlock Holmes in sequel



**RICHARD
CROUSE**
SCENE@METRONews.CA

Robert Downey Jr. knows how to work a room. I notice this while at the swank-a-delic Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills for a press conference to celebrate the release of *Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows*.

It's a packed panel, including co-stars Noomi Rapace (the original *Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*) and Jared Harris, mega producer Joel Silver and Downey's business and life partner Susan. Between them there are untold Oscar nominations and hundreds of millions in box office returns, but that doesn't mean squat when Downey enters and takes centre stage. All eyes — and 90 per cent of the questions — go to him. Midway he feigns embarrassment at the attention and says, "Why doesn't someone ask Joel Silver a question?" Why? Because Downey is the most quotable, funny and memorable person in the room, that's why.



► Robert Downey Jr., left, and Jude Law are Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson.

Here's a sample of what he had to say.

On making sequels:

"There should be a whole online support team for anyone who has ever been involved in making a second part to a first that worked. There is so much to learn. The greatest disguise was us disguising ourselves as consummate by-the-numbers professionals when, in fact, we're all incredibly eccentric."

When asked to talk about performing Sherlock Holmes's drag scenes:

"I guess we're not talking

about this as one of the most important films of the year. I put on some make-up. How are we going to get nominated with these kinds of questions?"

On improving on set:

"I think the goal is to make a well-written scene seem improvised, or to find things in the room you couldn't have known until you get in the real situation and just try and improve things as you go along."

On why his co-star was absent:

"Jude (Law) would have

been here, by the by, but his son had a soccer game."

On keeping the set "green":

"I just remember that every animal that was harmed was promptly taxidermied and sent as a gift to one of the many ecological companies who have these huge concerns that I validate."

On working with Jude Law and director Guy Ritchie:

"Jude and I are pretty close, but Guy and I are practically brothers. There have been times I have wanted to lob off his head with a machete."

Movie reviews | See it twice 🌐🌐🌐🌐

See it now 🌐🌐🌐 | Worth watching

🌐🌐 | Yawn 🌐🌐 | Don't bother 🌐

The Sitter

Genre: Comedy

Director: David Gordon Green

Stars: Jonah Hill, Sam

Rockwell

🌐🌐½

In *The Sitter*, Jonah Hill plays a likeable, albeit contemptuous drop-out reluctantly babysitting three even more disdainful kids.

But when his hideous girlfriend lures him to score her cocaine, the night turns into a crass journey of misadventures. Simply put, *The Sitter* plays solely as a vehicle for Hill to perform the chubby-guy-talking-trash shtick he's mastered since *Superbad*. If that works for you, sit tight and enjoy him in his pejorative prime. **STEVE GOW**



Margin Call

Genre: Drama

Director: J.C. Chandor

Stars: Zachary Quinto, Stanley Tucci, Kevin Spacey, Martin Baker

🌐🌐🌐

Members of the public who suffered great personal losses in the economic meltdown weren't the only ones in pain.

There was a special place in office tower hell for fat cats behind the meltdown that included but was not limited to survivor guilt, fear, anxiety,

moral compromise, thoughts of suicide and sleepless nights devoted to manipulating the truth.

Chandor's excruciating 24 hours with such a team is a kind of hell in itself, but it's a smart and worthy ride that feels a tad vengeful and totally exciting. Not a single chase, gunshot, or special effect needed as we witness the dramatic realisation of *Chicken Little*'s worst nightmare.

ANNE BRODIE

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS

"A FAMILY COMEDY NEVER SHORT ON CHRISTMAS CHEER."

Scott Bowles,
USA TODAY

"★★★★★
A NEW
CHRISTMAS
CLASSIC."

Andy Lea,
DAILY STAR SUNDAY



ArthurChristmas.ca

Sony Pictures
Animation

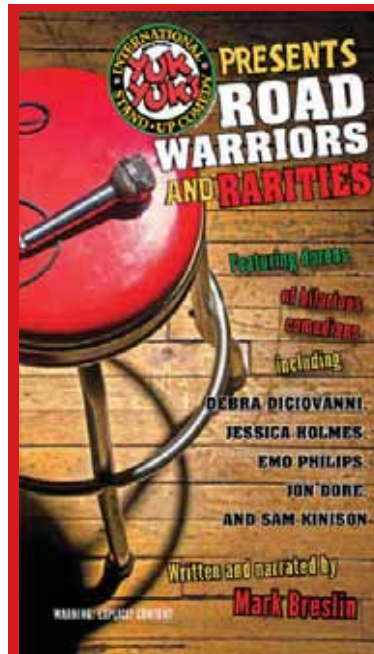
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PICTURES
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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 9 TO THURS., DEC. 15. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS

Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail,
403-670-5444

50/50 (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05/7:20-9:50
Dolphin Tale (G) Fri-Thu 1:41:57-7:05
Dream House (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-9:40
Drive (18A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Footloose (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:7-9:40
The Help (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:15-7:45
Johnny English Reborn (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:45/7:25-9:55
Killer Elite (14A) Fri-Thu 9:40
Moneyball (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:10-8
Real Steel (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55-6:45-9:30
The Rum Diary (14A) Fri-Thu 4:05-6:55
The Smurfs (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:50/7:10
The Three Musketeers (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:57/15-9:45

CROWFOOT CROSSING

91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Thu 1
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Thu 3:30-6:50-9:25
The Descendants (14A) Fri-Tue 1:05-3:50-7:05-9:55 Wed 3:50-7:05-9:55 Thu 1:05-3:50-7:05-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:35
Hugo 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55/7:10-10:10
Immortals (18A) Fri 1:25-4:15/7:30-10:25 Sat-Sun 4:15-7:30-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:15/7:30-10:25
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 10:55
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 2:40-7:15-9:50
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:15-4:7-9:45 No Passes Wed 4:7-9:45 No Passes Thu 1:15-4:7-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-6:50-9:25
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:40-10
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:20-10:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:55-4:05-4:35-6:55-7:35-9:40-10:15 Thu 1:30-4:55-4:05-4:35-6:55-7:35-10:15
White Christmas (STC) Sun 1

EAU CLAIRE MARKET

200 Barley Parade, 403-263-1166

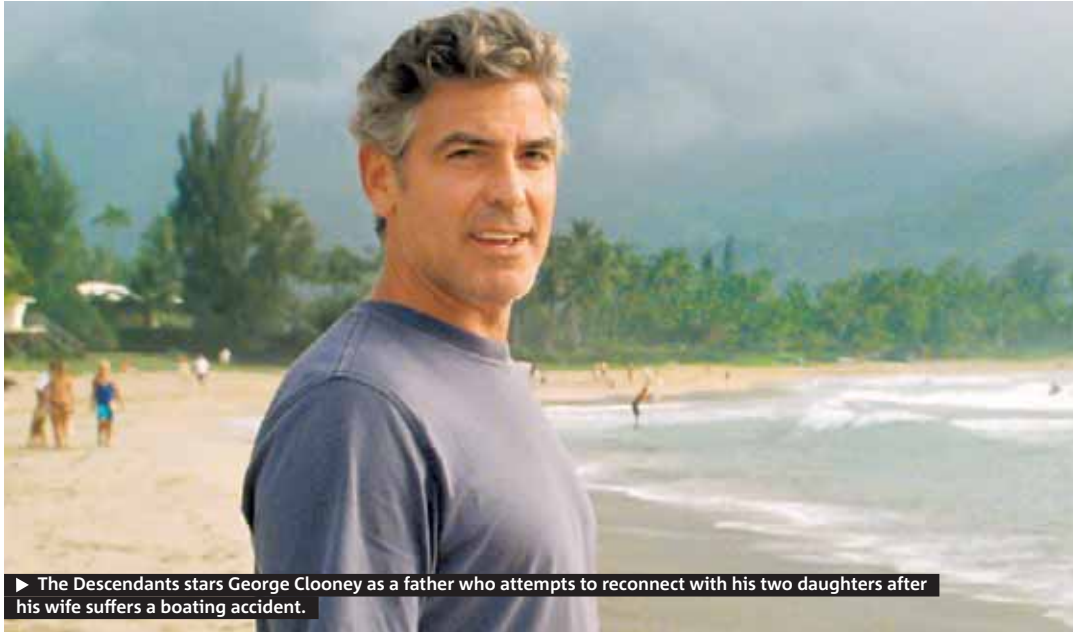
Hugo 3D (PG) Fri 7:15-10:10 Sat 12:30-3:30-7:15-10:10 Sun 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:45
J. Edgar (PG) Fri 6:30-9:40 Sat 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:40 Sun 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:35 Mon-Wed 6:30-9:35 Thu 6:30
Melancholia (14A) Fri 6:45-9:50 Sat 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:50 Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40
My Week With Marilyn (14A) Fri 7:45-10:30 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:45-10:30 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:20-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:55
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri 7:30-10:20 No Passes Sat 12:50-3:50-7:30-10:20 No Passes Sun 12:50-3:50-7:10-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:10-10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) No Passes Thu 10:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 7:10 Sat 1:4-7:10 Sun 1:4-7:50 Mon-Thu 7:50

EMPIRE STUDIO 16

COUNTRY HILLS

388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Arthur Christmas (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:10
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 3:05-6:40-9:15
The Descendants (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25/7:20-10:10



► The Descendants stars George Clooney as a father who attempts to reconnect with his two daughters after his wife suffers a boating accident.

Happy Feet Two (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 3:6-30-9
Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:30-6:55-9:25 Stadium Seating Thu 1:30-6:55
Hugo (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:15-3:10-6:35-9:30
Hugo 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-7:05-10
Immortals (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05/7:25-10:05
J. Edgar (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 9:45

Ladies vs. Ricky Bahl (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:515-9
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) Stadium Seating Thu 9:30
The Muppets (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:40-1:10-3:20-3:50-6:45/7:15-9:55
New Year's Eve (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:4-7-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:4-7-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1
Puss in Boots (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:25-3:15-7:10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50/7:30-9:50
Tower Heist (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20/7:45-10:15
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Wed 12:50-4:30-3:35-4:15-7:20-9:45-10:05 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 12:50-4:30-3:35-4:15-7:20-9:45-10:05
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 10:20

EMPIRE STUDIO 10

MACLEOD TRAIL

100-16061 Macleod Trail, 403-974-0470

Arthur Christmas (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:40-6:30-9:20
Happy Feet Two (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 3:30-6:20-9:15 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 3:30-6:20
Hugo (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40
Hugo 3D (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4:30-7:20-10:10
Immortals (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:50-4:40-7:50-10:30 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 1:50-4:40-7:50
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (STC) Digital Presentation, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 10:15
The Muppets (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:7-10-9:45
New Year's Eve (PG) Digital Presentation, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:35-7-9:50 Digital Presentation, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:20 Digital Presentation, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30
Puss in Boots (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Digital Presentation, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:4-10-7:40-10
Tower Heist (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:40-9:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:30-3:20-6:50-9:40 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 3:20-6:50-9:40

GLOBE CINEMA

617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

The Descendants (14A) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:30/7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30
The Way (PG) Fri 7:9-20 Sat-Sun 1:3-20-7-9-20 Mon-Wed 7-9-20 Thu 9:20

MOVIEDOME

1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000

The Dirty Picture (14A) Fri-Thu 9
Dream House (14A) Fri-Tue 1:10-4-6:50-9:55 Wed 1:10-4 Thu 1:10-4-6:50-9:55
Drive (18A) Fri-Tue 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:50 Wed 1:05-3:45 Thu 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:50
Footloose (PG) Fri-Tue 12:45-3:40-6:55-9:40 Wed 12:45-3:40 Thu 12:45-3:40-6:55-9:40
Johnny English Reborn (PG) Fri-Tue 7:45 Thu 7-9:45
Ladies vs. Ricky Bahl (STC) Fri-Tue 2-6:30-9 Wed 2 Thu 2-6:30-9
Moneyball (PG) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:55-7:45 Wed 12:50-3:55 Thu 12:50-3:55-7:45
Paranormal Activity 3 (14A) Fri-Tue 1:15-4:05/7:10-10 Wed 1:15-4:05 Thu 1:15-4:05/7:10-10
Real Steel (PG) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30 Wed 12:40-3:30 Thu 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30
The Smurfs (G) Fri-Tue 12:55-3:35-6:40 Wed 12:55-3:35 Thu 12:55-3:35-6:40
Spy Kids: All the Time in the World in 4D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:3-3:50

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK

6455 Macleod Trail, 403-212-8994

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Thu 1:50
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:25-2:50-5:15/7:40-10
The Descendants (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:20
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Thu 12:40
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Sat 3:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 3:40-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:15-7:15-10:15

Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Mon 1:4-7-9:30 Tue 1-4-7 Wed 1-4-7-9:30

Hugo 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40/7:05-10:05
Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 2:05-4:50/7:35-10:20

Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Sat 1:05-3:20-5:45-8:05-10:35 Sun 3:20-5:45-8:05-10:35 Mon-Wed 1:05-3:20-5:45-8:05-10:35 Thu 1:05-4:20-10:35

The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 10:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01

The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-1:20-3-4-6-50-7:20-9:30-10 Thu 12:30-3-4-6-50-7:20-9:30-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1

My Week With Marilyn (14A) Fri-Thu 4:10-7:10-9:50
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45/7:35-10:25

Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:50-5:20-7:45-10:10 Mon 12:30-2:50-5:10-10:10 Tue-Wed 12:30-2:50-5:20-7:45-10:10 Thu 12:30-2:50-5:20-7:45

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Wed 12:45-3-5:10-7:20-10 No Passes Thu 3:5-10-7:20-10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

Top Gun (STC) Mon 7
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Tue 1:45-4:25/7:25-10:05 Wed 1:45-4:25-10:05 Thu 1:45-4:25/7:25-10:05

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:30-4:30-6:40-7:30-9:25-10:30

A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (18A) Fri 1:40-4:15/7:05-9:40 Sat 4:15-7:05-9:40 Sun-Wed 1:40-4:15/7:05-9:40 Thu 1:40-4:15-9:40

White Christmas (STC) Sun 1

PLAZA THEATRE

1133 Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

Margin Call (14A) Fri-Sat 7:9-15 Sun 1:30-3:45

7-9:15 Mon-Tue 7-9:15 Wed 9:15 Thu 7-9:15

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM

2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:25-2:50-5:15/7:40-10 Mon-Thu 2:50-5:15-7:40-10
Desi Boyz (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-3:10-6:50-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:50-9:55

Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 1:15-7
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:2:35-5:20-7:55-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:20-7:55-10:25

Hugo (PG) Fri-Thu 3:45-9:45
Hugo 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 2:10-5-8:05-10:50 Sun 2:10-5-8:05 Mon-Thu 1:05-4:05/7:15-10:15

Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 12:2-40-7-9-45 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:25-8:10-35
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:20-3:40-6-8-15-10-35

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (STC) No Passes Thu 12:05-9
The Muppets (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:30-5:05-7:50-10:30 Mon-Tue 2:30-5:05-7:50-10:30 Wed 5:05-7:50-10:30 Thu 2:30-5:05-7:50-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:50-2:35-5:25-8:10-10:55 No Passes Mon-Tue 1:25-4:25-7:10-10 No Passes Wed 4:25-7:10-10 No Passes Thu 1:25-4:25-7:10-10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1

Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Sun 12:35 Mon-Thu 1
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:55-2:05-4:10-6:15-8:20-10:25 No Passes Mon-Wed 1:35-3:50/7:30-9:50 No Passes Thu 7:30-9:50 No Passes Thu 1:35-3:50

Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-8:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:20-8:05-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 11:55-1:30-2:30-4:15-5:10-7:20-8:10-9:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:30-2:30-4:15-5:10-7:20-7:35-10:05-10:20 Mon-Tue

1:30-2:30-4:15/7:20-7:35-10:05-10:20 Wed 1:30-2:30-4:15/7:20-10:05-10:20 Thu 1:30-2:30-4:15-7:20-10:05

A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri-Sun 3:20-7:45-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:25-7:45-10:10-10:05-10:20 Mon-Tue

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A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri-Sun 3:20-7:45-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:25-7:45-10:10-10:05-10:20 Mon-Tue

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1:30-2:30-4:15/7:20-7:35-10:05-10:20 Wed 1:30-2:30-4:15/7:20-10:05-10:20 Thu 1:30-2:30-4:15-7:20-10:05

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She's a little Fireball

► Willow Smith wants her fans to be feel empowered by her newest album

Willow Smith is all about kid empowerment.

The young singer says she's hoping to inspire listeners with her upcoming album *Knees and Elbows*.

"It's gonna make them feel like they have control over their lives and can do what they want to do and be the person they want to be," she said Wednesday night.

Willow is already proving that at just 11.

The daughter of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith has become a buzzed-about star thanks to her hit song *Whip My Hair*. She's also become a fashion trendsetter with her funky clothes; on Wednesday, her hair was closely cropped with big bangs in the front, and she wore a cropped jacket with decals, including the name of her album, and sequined jeans.

"I get a lot of my style from my friends," she said, also citing her aunt.

Willow recently teamed up with another fashionista, singer-rapper Nicki Minaj, for Willow's new song *Fireball*. Willow premiered it for groups of children and their parents at the Sony Store, as well as BET's 106 & Park.

Even though Minaj and Willow are cited for their



► Singer Willow Smith is promoting the release of her latest music video, *Fireball*, with Nicki Minaj.

style, Willow says they didn't share any fashion tips.

"We just kind of vibed off each other and had fun," she said.

Knees and Elbows is scheduled to be released in April. Willow said it will be "more R&B." The title

ties in to her theme of inspiration.

"Everybody falls down and scrapes their knees and elbows but they eventually get back up," she said.

Willow said she and her famous family will be vaca-

tioning for the holidays, and that she's not anxious about a Christmas gift.

"I have everything I need. I have my mom, my dad, my brothers, my family; ... that's pretty much what I want to keep," she said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

2011'S MUSICIANS WHO DESERVE ANOTHER LOOK

SOUND CHECK



ALAN CROSS
SCENE
@METRONews.CA

There's just too much music these days.

No wonder that so much great stuff—a disturbing amount—slips through the cracks. Here's a list of artists and albums that you may have missed over the last twelve months.

Cults/Cults

A boy-girl band from Manhattan who went from mysterious indie duo to major label signing in the space of

just a few months.

Cut Copy/Zonoscope

Third album from this Australian electronic band which has been nominated for a Grammy. *Need You Now* is a great love song.

EMA/Past Life Martyred Saints

EMA is Erika M. Anderson, who makes music out of what seems to be a succession of life crises. It's the kind of powerful, painful stuff that Courtney Love used to make about twenty years ago.

Lykke Li/Wounded Rhymes

Think of her as Sweden's answer to Bjork and Tori Amos but without the attendant weirdness. A hit in Scandinavia, it should have garnered more mainstream attention. **ALAN IS THE HOST OF THE RADIO SHOW THE SECRET HISTORY OF ROCK. REACH HIM AT ALAN@ALANCROSS.CA**

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Who's Fascinating to Barbara Walters

Who's been naughty, who's been nice: Walters chats to 10 of the most prominent news-makers of 2011

On her new TV special, Barbara Walters gets up close and personal with Donald Trump.

Maybe too personal. "We started with his hair," confides Walters. "He said, 'Pull it and you can see that it's not a hairpiece.' So I did. And I still think it's a hairpiece."

Trump — the follically perplexing reality star, businessman and sometimes presidential candidate — is on Walters' list of The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2011, which airs on ABC on Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. EST. It's the 19th annual compilation of the year's

most prominent names in entertainment, sports and popular culture.

Walters says she questioned Trump on his year of political adventures, which included commandeering the "birther" bandwagon by stoking doubt about U.S. President Barack Obama's U.S. citizenship, and by teasing voters with the prospect of his stepping in to the presidential race as a Republican candidate (Trump, of course, then opted not to take the leap).

"But he still is talking about running," Walters says. "He told me, 'If the Republicans pick the wrong

person, if the economy continues to be bad, I would certainly consider running as an independent.'"

Other Fascinating People include talent-show baron Simon Cowell, pop singing sensation Katy Perry and New York Yankees star Derek Jeter, who tells Walters that he'd like to own an athletic team.

"I told him, 'You're making a lot of money. You could buy one,'" reports Walters. "And he says, 'Great. I'll buy one with you.' We made a deal."

Also on board are Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Eric Stonestreet, the loving on-

Kardashian insight

Walters offers an explanation for all the popularity that's been showered on celebrities like the Kardashians who readily admit they have no talents worth celebrating.

"They're pretty women, they're glamorous and they don't know private from public," Walters says. "And they're part of a family — one for all and all for one — that people relate to."

screen couple from ABC's comedy hit *Modern Family*, and the Kardashian reality TV family.

Other Fascinating names include Pippa Middleton, dishy sister of British royal



► Katy Perry, left, with Barbara Walters in New York in November.

Kate, and Amanda Knox, the former Seattle exchange student whose four years in custody ended in October when an Italian court overturned her murder conviction in the death

of her roommate.

Walters calls the show "exciting, because it was fun to do. And these were easy interviews. There was no pulling teeth."

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Kardashian's choice

► Kris Jenner to help pick next Miss America ► Winner based on talent, looks and interviewing skills — remember Miss South Carolina Teen USA anyone?

Kardashian matriarch Kris Jenner is on a panel of seven judges who will pick next year's Miss America during a pageant in January in Las Vegas.

Jenner, a star of cable reality show *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, will join *Meet the Parents* actress Teri Polo and ABC's lifestyle anchor Lara Spencer on the panel announced Wednesday.

Also judging the pageant will be *Dancing With the Stars* dancer Mark Ballas, *The Bachelor* execu-

tive producer Mike Fleiss, *Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss Edition* host Chris Powell and Raul de Molina, a former photographer and host of Univision entertainment news show *El Gordo y la Flaca*.

The pageant's finals are scheduled for Jan. 14 at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino and will air live on ABC.

The judges will interview the state contestants and judge them in preliminary competitions during the week leading up to the pageant, eventually picking a winner based on looks, talent and interviewing skills.

This year's winner, Teresa Scanlan of Nebraska, won at age 17 and is the youngest Miss America since the pageant implemented age limits in

1938.

The pageant will be hosted by *The Bachelor* host Chris Harrison, who's at the start of a

two-year deal hosting the competition.

Miss America started in 1921 as a bathing revue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Kris Jenner

DEMETRI MARTIN

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How Regis Got This Way

► TV legend pens book about the famous people who have changed him

Regis Philbin still gets worked up about the 17-year-old Seinfeld episode in which he called Kramer “bonkos.”

“Oh my God, I lose my breath every time I think about it,” says the perennially exasperated TV host.

The anecdote is detailed

in *How I Got This Way*, Philbin’s new memoir about his encounters with a seemingly endless parade of celebrities including Jer-

ry Seinfeld, George Clooney, Howard Stern, Steven Spielberg, George Steinbrenner and Joe DiMaggio.

Last month, Philbin left *Live!* With Regis and Kelly after more than 28 years on morning television, many of them spent with co-hosts Kathie Lee Gifford and Kelly Ripa. During the daily host chat segment on *Live!*, he mastered the art of turning an everyday incident into an engaging story.

It’s a talent that’s on display from the moment he shows up for a 9 a.m. interview.

“You wouldn’t believe what I’ve been through!” says the excitable entertainer, launching into a colourful tale about a lost passport.

As for the job he has just left, Philbin says he’s been so busy promoting his book that he’s had little time to miss *Live!*

Written in a highly readable format, each chapter of *How I Got This Way* is about someone who made an impact on Philbin and concludes with a summary

“Confidence is really the key. You’ve got to have it, you’ve got to express it. Tell everybody what you want and go get it.”

REGIS PHILBIN

Regis unplugged

After spending an astounding 16,000 hours on television since the early 1950s, Philbin has crossed paths with some major stars.

► In *How I Got This Way*, he relates those meetings with the same insider-y dish that proved so irresistible to *Live!* viewers.

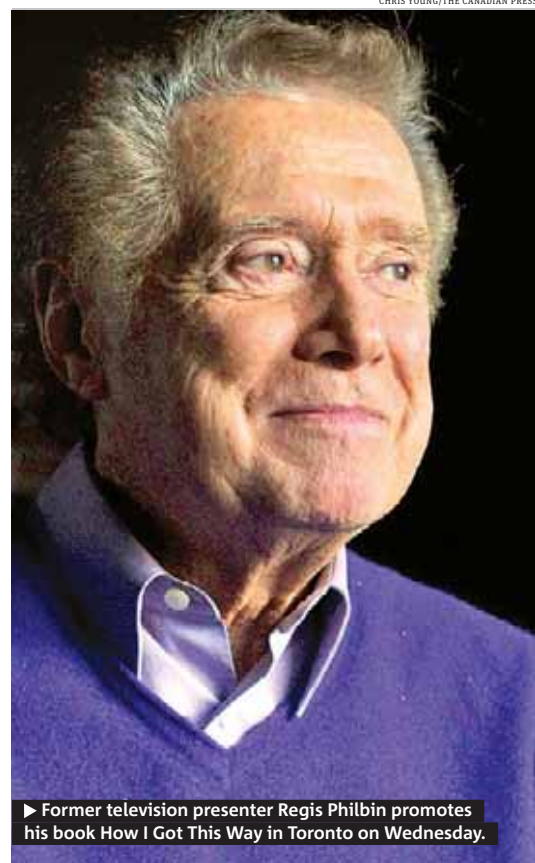
of what the *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* personality took away from the encounter.

“I just kept writing about those incidents that moved me in some way,” says Philbin. “I thought, this can happen from spending one night with someone, or a meeting with someone, or just brushing against them in some way — that they can, in another way, change you for the better.”

Philbin writes about a wild night he and wife Joy spent at Clooney’s Italian villa on Lake Como. He tells of his initial encounter with shock jock Stern (his neighbour in New York City) and his friendship with the late Yankees owner Steinbrenner. He also details an encounter at Yankee Stadium with his childhood idol DiMaggio.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Former television presenter Regis Philbin promotes his book *How I Got This Way* in Toronto on Wednesday.



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Lohan's shoot leaks

► Lindsay Lohan to appear on Ellen to officially unveil her Playboy cover

The cover of Lindsay Lohan's issue of Playboy has leaked a week ahead of its unveiling, according to Hollyscoop.

The vintage-themed cover features a naked Lohan straddling a red chair in the shape of the Playboy bunny logo that strategically blocks certain parts of her body.

"The pictorial is absolutely fantastic and very tasteful, and will be accompanied by an interview that will let readers see another side of Lindsay," her rep has said of the magazine's content.

Lohan is still set to appear on Ellen DeGeneres' show next week to officially unveil the issue and give her first interview since violating her parole.

She is rumoured to have received \$1 million for the shoot. ● METRO



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Talking points

Nothing Wilde to see here

RELATIONSHIPS. While Olivia Wilde has maintained that her love life is pretty quiet despite reports to the contrary, sources now say she's been dating Saturday Night Live star Jason Sudeikis — and apparently has been for a while, according to Us Weekly.

"She's come to the studio at Rockefeller Center, and they've gone out to dinner after rehearsals," a source says, adding that "they walked in holding hands" at the show's most recent after-party.

● METRO



Celebrity tweets



"When I got my house the cable guy said 'oh man, you bought the crazy house. This house makes people go crazy. All the cable guys know that'"

@jasonsegal



@oliviawilde

"sometimes i have good ideas, like going to see the Black Keys.

and then sometimes i decide to eat dinner while watching Contagion. doh."

@AlbertBrooks

"It seems Alec Baldwin quit Twitter. His followers are welcome here, but prepare to martyr yourself when I ask."



Is Lauer out at Today? Could Seacrest replace him?

THE WORD



DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE
@METRONEWS.CA

Rumor has it that NBC Universal is courting Ryan Seacrest to replace Matt Lauer on the Today show next year. Although Lauer hasn't announced his retirement, he has hinted at it quite seriously, and NBC wants someone big to re-

place him. And it's starting to look like that someone is our generation's version of Dick Clark. The Wall Street Journal announced the news of the courting on Thursday but so far NBC is keeping mum on the speculation.

Here's the thing: Seacrest is an amazing entertainer and host and deserves all the success that comes with his self-made media empire. But does the guy have the chops to report on something as

heavy as, say, terrorist attacks? He's too tan. Too involved in the Kardashians. Too smiley.

But maybe that's me just being a Hollywood-ist. And maybe what the show needs is Seacrest interviewing a head of state and then ending it with his trademark, "Seacrest, out!"

What do you think about this possible job move?

Write in to let me know.



► Ryan Seacrest

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Nordic super diet



Sweden is considered one of the world's healthiest nations. The Swedish diet consists of lots of heart-healthy fish, such as salmon and herring and high-fibre, dark and dense breads. Also popular is dairy, which has high amounts of calcium, helping with fat metabolism, says celeb fitness trainer Harley Pasternak. **METRO**



O, tannenbaum, what have you wrought? Live, artificial tree marketers exchange barbs.

Drinking like it's 1999



PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

I saw Prince in concert last week and while I'm not sure if it was his out-of-control funkfest (hello, the guy is 53!) or having drinks after the show with a female friend who looks even better than she did in college, I can testify that some things do get better with age.

Wines can be a lot like that, but not always. Most mid-priced vino is drank within 48 hours of leaving the shelf so many wine-makers design their juice to accommodate immediate drinking.

That doesn't mean your local liquor store won't have bottles you can squirrel away. Reds are best bets. Those from France's Burgundy and Bordeaux regions, bigger-bones Spaniards, Italians from Tuscany, and California cult wines make good candidates for the cellar.

Italy's 2007 Ruffino Riserva Ducale Chianti Classico (\$22.95 - \$34.99) comes from a spectacular year and though it will taste great with pasta today, with its dense core of dark cherry fruit, anise and light herbal spice it will age nicely over the next ten years. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



Catch of the week

While you have more free time on weekends, the kitchen may be the last place you want to spend it This simple fish dish is the perfect quick meal

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



For this dish, using salt in the skillet instead of oil helps to create heat.

It also allows you to cook with no added oil in the pan.

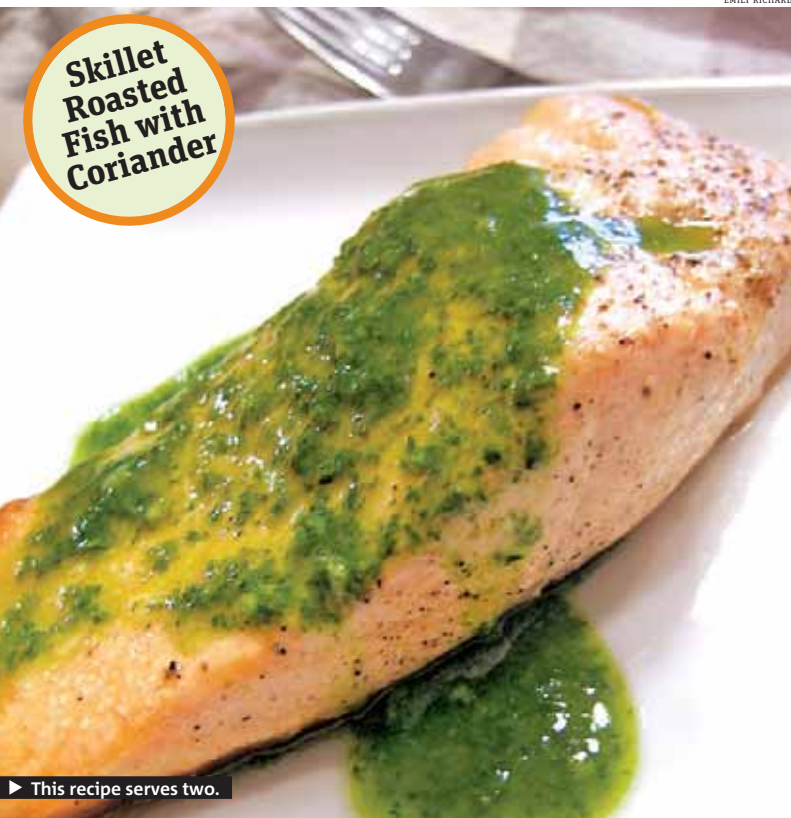
The salt is a essentially a hot bed in which to cook the salmon, and help the fish skin cook directly onto the salt for easy removal.

Skillet Salt Roasted Fish with Coriander Drizzle Preparation:

- 1 In a skillet, spread kosher salt in a single layer and place it over medium-high heat for about 10 minutes or until the salt is hot to the touch.
- 2 Place the salmon fillets on top and brush tops with some of the oil. Sprinkle with pepper.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups (500 mL) Kosher salt
- 2 salmon fillets, skin on (about 12 oz/375 g total)
- ¼ cup (50 mL) extra virgin



► This recipe serves two.

Cover the skillet and cook for about 15 minutes or until firm to the touch. Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.

Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.

- 3 Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.

- 4 In a blender, purée cilantro, garlic and remaining oil until it is

smooth and add vinegar. Pour the mix over the salmon and sprinkle it with smoked salt to serve.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A CELEBRITY TV CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

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Going out to see a movie is always nice, but bringing that theatre experience home is something you can enjoy year-round. If you were really good this year, maybe Santa will spruce up that aging home theatre for you.

Here are our picks to help you bring the cinematic experience home for the holidays.

55-inch LG Cinema 3-D LED TV — \$1,599

As the technology matures, the price of 3-D TVs continues to drop. You don't have to break the bank this holiday season in order to put a 3-D TV under the tree. LG sets itself apart from the rest by offering passive 3-D technology in its Cinema series televisions. The glasses are cheap, lightweight and much easier on the eyes than traditional 3-D glasses. The TV comes



Channel your Holiday spirit

loaded with useful apps such as Netflix so you will be guaranteed to have something to watch after you are done opening all the presents!

70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron — \$3,299

If you think bigger is better then look no further than the 70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron. This LED TV is ideal for those who want a large picture but don't have the appropriate setup for a projector. Sharp's Quattron technology adds a fourth (yel-



low) pixel into the mix for more vivid yellows and more vibrant blues. A matte screen also ensures glare from light sources is reduced. You can also purchase this television in an incredibly large 80-inch model.

24-inch PlayStation 3-D LED Display — \$499

The first PlayStation branded monitor! This display will change the way you game. Say goodbye to split screen! SimulView technology filters out your opponent's screen so two players can play the same game at the same time yet only see their own full screen action. Cheating is

70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron, \$3,299, left, Samsung BD-D7000 3-D Blu-ray Player, \$349, below, Apple TV, \$119, bottom.



now a thing of the past. This HD monitor comes with two pairs of 3-D glasses, HDMI cable and Motorstorm Apocalypse for the PS3.

Samsung BD-D7000 3-D Blu-ray Player — \$349

A small but mighty Blu-ray player! In fact, it's not much larger than a Blu-ray disc! This player features 2D-to-3D Up Conversion, so even your old Blu-ray movies can be viewed in 3-D. Connect your device to your wireless network and open up even more features such as apps, wireless streaming or the play-back of various types of video, music, and image files via the USB port. One of the nicest features has to be the Ultra-Fast Play, which brings you to the main screen of your movie in just three seconds from the time you insert the disc.

Apple TV — \$119

Stream your purchased iTunes content directly to your television. HD movies, TV shows and music can now all be enjoyed on the big screen. Have an iPad, iPod Touch or iPhone? You



can wirelessly stream your content (standard definition and high definition) directly to your Apple TV through Apple's AirPlay technology. Of course, you can also use Apple TV to access Netflix, YouTube, Vimeo and live Major League Baseball games.

LG Smart TV Upgrader — \$99.99

Disappointed your older flat screen TV doesn't have all the bells and whistles of the newer models? LG's Smart TV Upgrader makes any TV a Smart TV. Web browsing, apps, and premium video-on-demand services can be added to your TV through a single HDMI port.

Sony Personal 3-D Viewer — \$799

Imagine always having the perfect seat in the movie theatre! Now you can with your very own 3-D Viewer from Sony. Two 0.7-inch OLED screens sit in front of your eyes, but your brain tricks you into thinking you are staring at a 150-inch movie screen 12 feet away. The viewer offers full 5.1 surround sound.

55-inch LG Cinema 3-D LED TV, \$1,599, left, Sony Personal 3-D Viewer, \$799, top left, 24-inch PlayStation 3-D LED Display, \$499, top.

HOLIDAY 2011

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Big Bang

for the cinephile



Motion pictures: The gift that keeps on giving.

To a true Hollywood devotee, though, regular old DVDs rarely cut it. They are nowhere near comparable to the Mega-Platinum

Everything-But-The-Kitchen-Sink box sets that seem to come out around the same time snow starts piling up at our doorsteps.

This year is no exception, of course, so with that, keep these bona fide flicks in mind when looking for something to turn

your film freak starry-eyed this holiday season.

Current

Harry Potter: The Complete Eight-Film Collection

Warner

A full decade and eight feature films into this legacy, few need introduction to the bespectacled wizard and his spellbinding saga. However, even with latest series-capper Deathly Hallows only coming out recently, Warner announces that as of Dec. 29, all Harry Potter films will disappear from store shelves. While you have presumably been building your collection since 2001 debut The Philoso-

pher's Stone, grab The Complete Eight-Film Collection fast, before even magic can't bring it back.

Classic

Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory 40th Anniversary Ultimate Collector's Edition

Warner

With a title that long, it has to be great. Yes, we are all familiar with the inimitable Roald Dahl tale as performed by Gene Wilder, yet when packed with multiple extras in a double-wide numbered gift set, who can resist? We will all feel like Veruca Salt pining for the hours of extras, including a fresh di-

rector interview, Dahl featurette, 144-page production book reprint and — most importantly — a retro Wonka Bar-shaped tin box with scented pencils and eraser.

Cartoon

Mr. Magoo — The Television Collection 1960-1977

Shout! Factory

Whether fondly reminiscing or introducing a new generation to this goofy glasses-needing cornball,

Mr. Magoo is a wealth of innocent animated fun. Gathering all three series together for this 11-disc box set, The Television Collection is a true opus of fun, boasting 30-plus hours of sticky situations.

Television

The Big Bang Theory, Seasons One To Four

Warner

Catching on faster than a malicious meme, this sit-

com has turned two unlikely nerds into modern day heroes ... when we

can understand their intellectual jargon. This mega-box set is fleshed out with actor-on-actor interviews, a focus on song creators The Barenaked Ladies and a gag reel, creating 48-plus hours of Einstein-worthy hilarity.

Horror

Friday The 13th: The Ultimate Collection

Paramount

No, it's not exactly in keeping with the holiday spirit, but even horror hounds deserve something this season. Heeding the call, The Ultimate Collection delivers with splatter film star Jason Voorhees and all 10 of his Friday The 13th flicks served up in a gruesome package. Bolstered by expanded editions, a book and a life-sized replica of the slasher's trademark hockey mask, this collection is as cool as it is creepy.



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Tips to simplify shopping

- It's easy to feel overwhelmed this time of year, but you can survive the chaos
- Here are some tips on how to tackle your holiday gift list and shop like a pro

Are you overwhelmed at the prospect of tackling your holiday gift list? Here are a few tips to help put your fears to rest and conquer that list like a pro:

1 Get gifts that are personal. Start by making a list. Write down who you are shopping for and then list their interests. This will

help you narrow down gift ideas and ensure success.

2 Avoid spending time on wasteful items, such as a card for every present. Print personalized labels at stickeryou.com and put them on everything from presents to wine bottles to your holiday baking. This will

save you both time and money.

3 Find gifts that can be enjoyed by the whole family. If you have four family members on your list, cut it down by settling on one gift they can all enjoy together.

This can include a board game, a DVD set, even a

craft. For example, StickerYou.com has a product called Make + Print Your Own Stickers. It offers packages of 40 to 110 stickers that make for a fun craft project.

Mom can make family address labels, dad can come up with funny bumper stickers, and the kids can design name stick-

ers for all their gear.

4 Order online. Avoid lineups at the mall, let the gifts come to you. Or better yet — have it shipped directly to them. **NEWS CANADA**



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THE SMARTPHONE MARKET

ANDROIDS ARE TAKING OVER THE WORLD

There's a lot of talk that Google's innovative mobile platform Android is becoming the number one smartphone platform in the world. And for good reason.

Earlier this year, Google announced that 400,000 new Android devices are being activated every day. That adds up to about 200 million Android devices in use around the world today!

In Canada, comScore, a measurement firm, also recently reported that Android doubled its share of the smartphone market between June to September. And, research company Gartner Inc. says Android represents 52.5 per cent of the worldwide smartphone market.

So what makes Android so successful?

First, the operating system is not tied to a specific manufacturer, so there's a wide selection of devices for consumers to choose from. Mobility, for example, carries Android smartphones made by HTC, Nokia and Samsung.

There are also a wide range of price points, from super affordable smartphones, such as the *Samsung Galaxy Mini* (\$169.99 at Mobility), to more premium-priced phones like the *Samsung Nexus S* (\$349.99 at Mobility) and *HTC Amaze 4G* (\$549.99 at Mobility).

Here's what else makes Android's appeal so wide-reaching:

KEYBOARDS

Choose from both touchscreen and touch/QWERTY models. Some Android smartphones even come with handy keypad apps, like Quicktype by Swype, which comes pre-installed on the Samsung Galaxy Mini. It lets you quickly "swipe" from letter to letter to form a word

rather than having to tap on each touchscreen key — making sending texts and emails a breeze.

CUSTOMIZATION TOOLS

Android makes it easy to set up the device to your liking. The intuitive TouchWiz on the Samsung Galaxy Mini, for example, lets you customize your home screen with widgets.

GOOGLE SERVICES

Android smartphones have smooth and easy compatibility with all Google services, including the free Google Navigation with turn-by-turn instructions, YouTube, Google Search and many others. With Mobility's unlimited data, you can access these features as often as you need to.

APPS GALORE

There's a never-ending supply of apps — 320,000 free and paid apps at the Android Market; or you can download apps from other sources to customize your Android the way you want it!

VOICE ACTIVATION

The free Voice Search app lets you search your phone, the web and nearby locations, by speaking into the device instead of typing. For example, you can tell your Samsung Nexus S smartphone what to send by text message — and it will. Now that's smart.

MEDIA

Android makes it easy to load and play music and movies, with support for most common video file formats. Cameras range from the 5-Megapixel camera with autofocus and LED flash on the Samsung Nexus S to the 8-Megapixel HD camera and bonus 2-Megapixel front-facing camera on the HTC Amaze.

FOUR TO EXPLORE



Samsung Galaxy Mini is a great quality Android at an affordable price. Its 3.14-inch Touch Screen with TouchWiz technology makes the interface highly responsive to touch. The 600 MHz processor supports Flash video.

At Mobility, \$169.99

"After 24 hours, I love the HTC Panache," states a

customer review on howardforums.com. "It's a well-built machine. If you need a phone that has an excellent screen, and is fast, check out the Panache." The powerful Panache offers the best of style, function and innovation. It has interactive camera effects, a built-in flashlight (via the LED camera flash) and it can turn into a portable Wi-Fi hotspot.

At Mobility, \$299.99 (reduced from \$499)



Samsung Nexus S made techradar.com's 10 Best Android List — and no wonder. The first Android Gingerbread 2.3 phone features a 1 GHz processor, 16GB of internal memory and a 4-inch curved glass multi-touch display.

At Mobility, \$349.99 (reduced from \$499)

HTC Amaze 4G — just released — rings in the holidays with a large, 4.3-inch vibrant LCD touch screen, two cameras and 1.5 GHz dual core processor for fast web browsing, downloading and true HD video viewing.

At Mobility, \$549.99 regular price.



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GasBuddy helps you save money when you need gas. The app finds the gas station nearest you and shows gas prices in real time. Become a **GasBuddy** "price tipster" and you can earn points towards price giveaways. **Free**



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Not sure where to eat tonight? **Urbanspoon** can help and make it fun too. The app is like a slot machine — shake your phone and the wheels spin until they land on a nearby restaurant. Keep shaking until you find one you want to try. Or, you can filter choices by neighbourhood, cuisine, or price. **Urbanspoon** also provides ratings and reviews. **Free**



PORTABLE SCANNER

Turn your mobile phone into a portable scanning device with the **CamScanner** app. All you have to do is take a picture of a document, receipt, note or picture with your phone and create a pdf. It's a great way to upload and manage documents. **\$4.99**



FUN WITH PHOTOS

PhotoFunia is an online photo editing tool that's great fun. Upload any photo and the app adds photo effects — for a funny photo montage. Want to see what you'd look like as Santa? A Skateboarder? A Zombie? Check it out. More than 200 scenes and effects for hours of fun! **Free**



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MY KINDA PHONE

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FUN WITH PHOTOS

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YELP

Yelp is a fun way to find and talk about great (and not so great) local businesses like restaurants, bars and shops; also spas, live shows and galleries. The whole idea is to preview places you're considering and see what other people think of them before you go to potentially save you time and money on a place that might not be up to par. **Free**



KEEP IN TOUCH

Stay connected with **PingChat!** This app lets you send unlimited texts, photos, videos and voice notes instantly. Receive messages instantly too with push notifications and see message receipts. Plus, share your social profile with confirmed contacts! **PingChat** also allows for group chats with multiple friends. **Free**



WHY ANDROID?



If you're thinking about getting a new smartphone and having a hard time choosing which platform to go with, here are some things to consider:

LOTS OF CHOICE Android phones are made by different manufacturers, which means there's a wider range of devices available than with other platforms.

FITS ANY BUDGET Android devices start at an affordable no-contract price of \$169.99 at Mobilicity.

LARGER SCREENS Screens on Android smartphones are not

limited to the 3.5 inch size found on some platforms — in fact, Android displays range up to 4.5 inches in size.

DOUBLE THE MEMORY Androids don't just have internal memory; there are options for external memory, too.

NOTIFICATION Android phones have a convenient notifications bar, not multiple pop-up notifications.

FLASH! Android smartphones support Adobe Flash — which makes for a better web experience!

Throwing a perfect holiday party

► Celebrate the season with a glittering open house for family and friends that's also easy on the hostess



YLVA VAN BUUREN
FOR METRO

The holidays are a wonderful time to hold a party for family and friends.

An open house lets your

guests double-book if they have to during this busy time of year, says Robyn Green, Kai Event Management, Vancouver.

And an open house is also easier for the hostess ...

you can prepare many foods and nibbles ahead, space out serving them, and wander about and visit with guests.

Planning is the most important part, says Greta

Podleski, co-author of *The Looneyspoons Collection* and other cookbooks.

FOOD

Stick to hot and cold appetizers and a couple of desserts. "Three hot appetizers and two desserts/sweets should be plenty of variety," says Podleski. "Make some, buy some" is a good strategy — "but always present premade, store-bought food in pretty bowls or on decorative plates."

For the day of, write out a prep schedule. "I even write down when I'm getting into the shower and getting dressed for the party," says Podleski.

BAR

Keep it simple ... beer, wine and a couple non-alcoholic beverage choices.



COMSTOCK IMAGES/THINKSTOCK

❖ Planning an open house party is easy for the hostess since you can plan many foods and nibbles ahead.

DECOR

A metallic (silver or gold) colour theme will help make your event glitter.

Use silver or gold runners and napkins on your buffet table. Clear glass containers filled with sparkly ornaments look pretty and festive. Fill a

large, shallow silver bowl with pomegranates and tuck evergreen sprigs or holly berries between the fruit. Make a wreath for the front door by attaching silver bells to a circular form.

The finishing touch: Use edible gold flakes to rim champagne or wine glasses, sprinkle on desserts or even put in ice cubes.

GIFTS

Ask guests to help you fill stockings for the homeless by bringing gifts such as wool mittens or socks and food items. "And I like to give out gifts when guests leave," says Green. Bake ginger or shortbread cookies and put them in a mason jar tied with gold or silver ribbon.

THE PODLESKIS' NEW COOKBOOK, THE LOONEYSPOONS COLLECTION, IS AVAILABLE AT INDIGO.CA.

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WINNERS

HOMESENSE

Be social, but also on your best behaviour

The social holiday party is generally such a pleasure compared to the office party, but, yet, there are some simple guidelines that are important to follow to help ensure you have a great time and still hold your head up proudly at your kid's next soccer game!

Like any party, RSVP as soon as you get the invitation and never arrive early — fashionably late (15 minutes) is a good thing.

If appropriate, bring something like a box of chocolates, homemade cookies, a bottle of wine or a potted plant, favourite

book or present for fido the dog, but never bring cut flowers, as this puts a burden on the hostess to have to arrange them at the last minute.

If you are going to drink, make sure you make arrangements ahead of time on how you are going

to get home — taxi, transit, or a non-drinking friend.

Now the perfect hostess will try to mingle to make sure everyone is having a good time, but the good guest should also make an effort to mingle and not sit in the corner with a group or monopolizing a guest

just for themselves.

Don't be the last guest to leave, and if you see your host is all by themselves without help, always offer to do something in the kitchen or at the bar.

Myself, I love to be the barman if I don't know anyone at the party — this

gives me something to do, and I get the opportunity to meet everyone. This has been a successful technique for me in the past and helps in getting to know people while having a great time at a social party where I didn't know many people.

● CHARLES THE BUTLER



✳ Getting drunk, acting silly or any other non-professional behaviour should be avoided at your office holiday party. Being known as the office clown is never a good thing, particularly at promotion time next year.

Don't be the talk of your office party

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Oh, yes, the annual office holiday party! This can either be a disaster waiting to happen or an opportunity for business success.

First and foremost, despite the name, a holiday party is still a business function and getting drunk, acting silly or any other non-professional behaviour is out. Remember, these are your working peers and bosses, and being known as the office clown from the annual holiday party is never a good thing, particularly at promotion time the following year!

So keep the number of alcoholic drinks under control. I like the rule of

two alcoholic drinks at a cocktail party and three alcoholic drinks for a sit-down dinner. Try to pace these out by having a non-alcoholic drink between each alcoholic beverage.

Keep your conversation pleasant. You can talk about a large number of items and, in fact, the best lesson to learn if you are nervous about what to talk about is to read Metro from cover to cover the morning of your party. Why you ask?

Because this gives you a bunch of topics to talk about that are all current and relevant. What not to talk about always remains the same in a professional environment. Never talk about politics or religion.

It is important to make a point and mingle, greet and acknowledge all of the senior members of your company at the party.

Finally, last but not least, have a good time and enjoy yourself; this will be evident to everyone around you.

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4
sports

Quoted



"This is a monumental day for Angel fans and I could not be more excited."

LOS ANGELES ANGELS OWNER ARTE MORENO AFTER HIS CLUB SIGNED FIRST BASEMAN ALEX PUJOLS, PICTURED, TO A \$254-MILLION US, 10-YEAR CONTRACT ON THURSDAY, THE SECOND HIGHEST IN BASEBALL HISTORY. THE THREE-TIME MVP PUJOLS AGREED TO THE DEAL EXACTLY SIX WEEKS AFTER HE HELPED THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS WIN THE WORLD SERIES.

"This is obviously the moment where we have thrown our hat in the ring."

ANGELS GENERAL MANAGER JERRY DIPOTO, WHO ALSO SIGNED LEFT-HANDER C.J. WILSON TO A \$77.5-MILLION, FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT ON THURSDAY.

Flames bury Avalanche

- ▶ Glencross returns to line with Iginla, Jokinen after sitting out with flu
- ▶ Morrison's resurgent play continues with two assist evening



▶ Flames forward Rene Bourque, left, is stopped by Avalanche goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere in Calgary Thursday night.

Olli Jokinen scored the winner at 15:10 of the third period Thursday as the Calgary Flames defeated the Colorado Avalanche 3-2.

Curtis Glencross, with a goal and an assist, and Lee Stempniak had the other goals for Calgary (13-13-2). Brendan Morrison added two assists.

Matt Duchene and T.J. Galiardi replied for the Avalanche (13-14-1).

Miikka Kiprusoff made 16 saves in the win, while Jean-Sebastien Giguere stopped 32 shots in defeat.

Jokinen capped off a nice three-way passing play that started with Glencross and



ended with Jarome Iginla's cross-ice feed.

A miserable 0-for-5 evening on the power play for the Flames through two periods turned around in

the third as Calgary connected on both ends of a double-minor for high-sticking to Galiardi.

Morrison's nice touch pass back to Stempniak was rifled into the top corner past Giguere at 6:21.

Morrison was the playmaker again on the man advantage at 7:47. Coming off a four-point game on Tuesday night, the veteran forward zipped a pass into the slot that Glencross neatly deflected over Giguere's shoulder.

Colorado fought back to tie it 2-2 just over two minutes later when Galiardi snapped a shot past Kipru-

soff from 30 feet out.

The game was scoreless for the first 35 minutes before Colorado finally opened the scoring.

From behind his net, Flames defenceman T.J. Brodie attempted to clear the puck around the glass and out, only to have it kept in at the blue-line by Colorado defenceman Jan Hejda.

The puck went to Duchene, who curled into the slot and with a crowd of bodies in front fired a wrist shot from 20 feet out that beat Kiprusoff high on the blocker side.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coach Hay set for 2nd WJC tour

Jean Chretien was still the prime minister the last time Don Hay coached Canada in the World Junior Championship.

Now, 16 years later, Hay is about to begin his quest for another gold medal in the same province — Alberta — where he led a team that included future NHLers Ryan Smyth and Ed Jovanovski to glory.

"I really feel that this is the time for me to step back in," said Hay, who also coaches the Western Hockey League's Vancouver Giants. "I'm really looking forward to it and I'm really honoured."

Hay arrives in Calgary on Friday for a selection camp that will determine the team to compete in the annual Christmastime tournament. His 1995 Canadian squad went a perfect 7-0. But the expectations will be much greater this time.

Back then, the tournament did not receive the same hype it does now and was played in smaller venues like Red Deer, Alta. This time, games will be played in Calgary and Edmonton exclusively.

"The tournament's really grown," said Hay, a native of Kamloops, B.C. "It's gone from mid-city venues to big-city venues and it's a real big event."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



"You're not picking the 22 best players, you're picking the 22 players that make the best team."

CANADIAN JUNIOR COACH DON HAY

NBA shoots down deal to send Paul from Hornets to Lakers

The NBA, as owners of the New Orleans Hornets, won't trade all-star guard Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Lakers.

NBA spokesman Mike Bass says: "It's not true that the owners killed the deal, the deal was never discussed at the Board of Gov-

ernors meeting and the league office declined to make the trade for basketball reasons."

A person familiar with the trade told the Associated Press that the framework for a deal had been in place, but that Paul would report to Hornets

camp Friday.

Lakers forward Lamar Odom would have gone to New Orleans and fellow Los Angeles forward Pau Gasol to Houston, the third team in the trade, people told the Associated Press on Thursday. They spoke on the condition of

anonymity because the deal was not finalized.

Speaking earlier Thursday, Hornets president Hugh Weber said the franchise has been preparing for months for the possibility that Paul would resist signing an extension in New Orleans, a move that

would all but force a trade.

"We've been preparing for this moment for over a year and it's not like we were surprised or caught flat-footed," Weber said.

Paul, 26, averaged 15.8 points and 9.8 assists last season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	27	17	7	2	1	96	79	37	7-4-1-1	10-3-1-0	7-3-0-0	W4
d-Florida	28	16	8	1	3	80	69	36	6-2-1-3	10-6-0-0	7-2-1-0	W3
d-Boston	27	17	9	0	1	89	56	35	10-0-0-1	7-3-0-0	7-2-0-1	L2
Pittsburgh	29	16	9	2	2	88	72	36	8-2-2-0	8-7-0-2	5-4-1-0	L2
NY Rangers	25	15	6	1	3	73	58	34	7-2-0-2	8-4-1-1	6-3-0-1	L2
Toronto	28	15	10	2	1	89	90	33	6-4-2-1	9-6-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Buffalo	27	14	11	1	1	76	74	30	8-3-0-1	8-3-0-0	3-5-1-1	L1
Ottawa	29	13	12	2	2	90	101	30	7-5-0-1	6-7-2-1	4-3-2-1	L2
Washington	27	14	12	0	1	84	87	29	9-4-0-1	5-8-0-0	4-6-0-0	W1
New Jersey	27	14	12	0	1	70	78	29	6-4-0-1	8-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W2
Montreal	29	11	11	2	5	72	76	29	4-5-2-4	7-6-0-1	2-3-2-3	L2
Winnipeg	27	12	11	3	1	77	83	28	8-4-0-0	4-7-3-1	7-2-1-0	W3
Tampa Bay	28	12	14	0	2	73	91	26	7-4-0-0	5-10-0-2	3-7-0-0	W1
NY Islanders	26	9	11	4	2	59	82	24	6-6-3-0	3-5-1-2	4-3-2-1	L1
Carolina	30	9	17	2	2	77	104	22	5-9-0-2	4-8-2-0	3-7-0-0	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Minnesota	28	18	7	2	1	71	61	39	10-4-1-0	8-3-1-1	9-1-0-0	W5
d-Chicago	29	17	8	1	3	96	90	38	8-2-0-3	9-6-1-0	5-4-0-1	W1
d-Phoenix	28	15	10	1	2	76	72	33	6-5-1-1	9-5-0-1	5-5-0-0	L1
Detroit	27	17	9	1	0	82	61	35	11-2-1-0	6-7-0-0	8-2-0-0	W3
Vancouver	28	17	10	0	1	93	70	35	8-4-0-1	9-6-0-0	8-2-0-0	W1
St. Louis	28	16	9	0	3	70	62	35	10-3-0-1	6-6-0-2	6-2-0-2	W2
Dallas	26	15	10	0	1	69	72	31	9-4-0-1	6-6-0-0	4-5-0-1	L1
Los Angeles	27	13	10	2	2	62	61	30	8-7-0-1	5-3-2-1	5-4-1-0	L2
Nashville	28	13	11	3	1	74	77	30	4-5-2-1	9-6-1-0	3-6-1-0	W1
San Jose	24	14	9	1	0	68	58	29	7-6-1-0	7-3-0-1	5-5-0-0	L2
Edmonton	28	13	12	0	3	79	76	29	8-5-0-2	7-7-0-1	4-5-0-1	L2
Calgary	28	13	13	1	1	70	87	28	7-5-1-1	6-8-0-0	5-4-0-1	W2
Colorado	29	13	15	1	0	77	87	27	7-9-0-0	6-6-1-0	5-5-0-0	L2
Anaheim	28	8	15	2	3	65	92	21	6-9-1-0	2-6-1-3	2-7-1-0	L1
Columbus	28	8	16	1	3	68	94	20	5-7-1-1	3-9-0-2	4-3-2-1	L1

d = division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results

Vancouver 4 Montreal 3 (SO)
Calgary 3 Colorado 2
New Jersey 5 Ottawa 4 (SO)
Florida 2 Boston 0
Tampa Bay 3 N.Y. Rangers 2 (SO)
Nashville 4 Columbus 3 (OT)
St. Louis 4 Anaheim 2
Chicago 3 N.Y. Islanders 2 (OT)
Philadelphia 3 Pittsburgh 2
Detroit 5 Phoenix 2
Minnesota at Los Angeles
Dallas at San Jose

Wednesday's results

Carolina 5 Edmonton 3
Washington 5 Ottawa 3
Philadelphia 5 Buffalo 4 (OT)

Tonight's games

All times Eastern

Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Florida at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games

Montreal at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Boston at Columbus, 7 p.m.
San Jose at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's games

Florida at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Chicago, 7 p.m.

CANUCKS 4, CANADIENS 3 (SO)

First Period

1. Montreal, St-Denis 1 (Cammalleri, Plekanec) 4:38
2. Montreal, Diaz 2 (Pacioretty, Cole) 18:51
Penalties — Raymond Vcr (delay of game)
9:37, Subban Mtl (interference) 12:57, Gorges Mtl (cross-checking) 13:32.

Second Period

3. Montreal, Cole 9, 2:20
4. Vancouver, Raymond 1 (Hansen) 8:37 (sh)
Penalties — Kesler Vcr (hooking) 7:05, Wiese Vcr (goaltender interference) 12:48.

Third Period

5. Vancouver, Hodgson 6, 4:24
6. Vancouver, Salo 6 (H.Sedin, Kesler) 15:20 (pp)
Penalties — Emelin Mtl (holding stick) 3:53, D. Sedin Vcr (goaltender interference) 4:11, Eller Mtl (cross-checking) 14:40.

Overtime — No Scoring.

Penalties — None.

Shootout — Vancouver wins 1-0

Mtl (0) — Desharnais, miss; Pacioetty, miss; Cammalleri, miss; Van (1) — Hodgson, goal; Kesler, miss.

Shots on goal

Vancouver 13 5 10 3 —31
Montreal 7 10 5 1 —23

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (W,10-6-1), Mont-

real: Price (SOL,10-9-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 1-4; Montreal: 0-4.

Attendance — 21,273 (21,273) at Montreal.

FLAMES 3, AVALANCHE 2

First Period — No Scoring.

Penalties — Kostopoulos Cal (holding) 6:11, Landeskog Col (holding stick) 7:09, Winnik Col (cross-checking) 19:05.

Second Period

1. Colorado, Duchene 10 (Hejda) 15:15
Penalties — Hejda Col (double high-sticking) 1:03, Stempniak Cal (hooking) 9:34, Johnson Col (holding) 16:15.

Third Period

2. Calgary, Stempniak 8 (Morrison, Butler) 6:21 (pp)
3. Calgary, Glencross 8 (Morrison, Stempniak) 7:47 (pp)

4. Colorado, Galiardi 4 (Hejdik) 9:58
5. Calgary, Jokinen 8 (Iginya, Glencross) 15:10

Penalties — Galiardi Col (double-high-stick-ing) 4:35, Yip Col (interference) 15:46.

Shots on goal

Colorado 10 15 10 —39
Calgary 4 5 9 —18

Goal — Colorado: Giguere (L,4-4-0); Calgary:

Kiprusoff (W,13-9-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Colorado: 0-2; Calgary: 2-8.

Attendance — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Giroux, Pha	16	20	36
Kessel, Tor	17	18	35
D.Sedin, Vcr	12	21	33
Toews, Chi	17	15	32
Lupul, Tor	13	19	32
Stamkos, TB	16	14	30
Nugent-Hopkins, Edm	13	17	30
P.Kane, Chi	8	22	30
H.Sedin, Vcr	8	22	30
Weiss, Fla	11	18	29
Backstrom, Wash	10	19	29
Eberle, Edm	10	19	29
Pominville, Buf	9	20	29
Vanek, Buf	13	15	28
Fleischmann, Fla	12	16	28

Last night's games not included

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	3	0	.750	362	247
N.Y. Jets	7	5	0	.583	290	260
Buffalo	5	7	0	.417	278	304
Miami	4	8	0	.333	246	220

SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	9	3	0	.750	310	189
Tennessee	7	5	0	.583	249	229
Jacksonville	3	9	0	.250	152	238
Indianapolis	0	12	0	.000	174	358

NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	10	3	0	.769	282	198
Baltimore	9	3	0	.750	296	192
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	266	250
Cleveland	4	9	0	.308	178	254

WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	7	5	0	.583	256	292
Oakland	7	5	0	.583	274	308
San Diego	5	7	0	.417	287	289
Kansas City	5	7	0	.417	163	268

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	7	5	0	.583	283	244
N.Y. Giants	6	6	0	.500	287	315
Philadelphia	4	8	0	.333	271	282
Washington	4	8	0	.333	202	256

SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	9	3	0	.750	393	269
Atlanta	7	5	0	.583	269	244
Carolina	4	8	0	.333	290	324
Tampa Bay	4	8	0	.333	218	329

NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Green Bay	12	0	0	1.000	420	262
Detroit	7	5	0	.583	333	277
Chicago	7	5	0	.583	291	242
Minnesota	2	10	0	.167	246	330

WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-San Francisco	10	2	0	.833	288	161
Seattle	5	7	0	.417	216	246
Arizona	5	7	0	.417	232	269
St. Louis	2	10	0	.167	140	296

y-clinched division

WEEK 14

Last night's result

Pittsburgh 14 Cleveland 3

Sunday's games

All times Eastern

New Orleans at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Houston at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 1 p.m.
New England at Washington, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Chicago at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
Buffalo at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Oakland at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
St. Louis at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.

SKIING

WORLD CUP

MEN'S SLALOM

At Beaver Creek, Colo.
1. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:50.20
2. Cristian Deville, Italy, 1:50.34
3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 1:50.68
4. Nolan Kasper, U.S., 1:50.90
5. Mitja Valencic, Slovenia, 1:51.05
6. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 1:51.06
7. Patrick Thaler, Italy, 1:51.07
8. Manfred Moelgg, Italy, 1:51.13
9. Manfred Pranger, Austria, 1:51.24
10. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 1:51.26
11. Stefano Gross, Italy, 1:51.49
12. Wolfgang Hoerl, Austria, 1:51.67
13. Ted Ligety, U.S., 1:51.70
14. Jens Byggmark, Sweden, 1:51.78
15. **Brad Spence, Calgary, 1:51.79**
16. Markus Vogel, Switzerland, 1:51.88
17. **Julien Cousineau, Lachute, Que., 1:51.98**
18. Mario Matt, Austria, 1:52.02
19. **Michael Janyk, Whistler, B.C., 1:52.09**
20. Fritz Dopfer, Germany, 1:52.12
21. Leif Kristian Haugen, Norway, 1:52.15
22. Mattias Hargin, Sweden, 1:52.19
23. Christoph Dreier, Austria, 1:52.25
24. Markus Larsson, Sweden, 1:52.35
25. Benjamin Raich, Austria, 1:52.68
26. Giuliano Razzoli, Italy, 1:52.86
27. Bode Miller, U.S., 1:52.93
28. Steve Missillier, France, 1:52.94
29. Krystof Kryzl, Czech Republic, 1:53.39
30. Marc Berthod, Switzerland, 2:08.88

WORLD CUP SLALOM STANDINGS

(After 1 race)

1. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 100 points; 2. Cristian Deville, Italy, 80; 3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 60; 4. Nolan Kasper, U.S., 50; 5. Mitja Valencic, Slovenia, 45; 6. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 40; 7. Patrick Thaler, Italy, 36; 8. Manfred Moelgg, Italy, 32; 9. Manfred Pranger, Austria, 29; 10. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 26.

WORLD CUP OVERALL STANDINGS

(After 8 races)

1. Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 334 points; 2. Ted Ligety, U.S., 309; 3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 280; 4. Didier Cuche, Switzerland, 268; 5. Beat Feuz, Switzerland, 260; 6. Hannes Reichelt, Austria, 227; 7. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 205; 8. Bode Miller, U.S., 203; 9. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 170; 10. Alexis Pinturault, France, 163.

GOLF

DUBAI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

At Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Par 72

First Round

Peter Hanson	34-30—64
Paul Lawrie	32-33—65
Rory Mclroy	36-30—66
Sergio Garcia	35-32—67
Ross Fisher	35-33—68
Robert Rock	35-33—68
Alvaro Quiros	33-35—68
Jaco Van Zyl	34-35—69
Shane Lowry	33-36—69
David Horsey	36-33—69
David Lynn	34-35—69
Thomas Aiken	34-35—69
Charl Schwartzel Africa	35-34—69
Gonzalo Fdez-Castano	34-36—70
Hennie Otto	37-33—70

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Acquired LHP Dana Eveland from L.A. Dodgers for LHP Jarrett Martin & OF Tyler Henson. Designated RHP Willie Eyre for assignment. Selected LHP Andrew Loomis from Philadelphia & INF Matt Sweeney from Tampa Bay in Rule 5 draft. Sent INF Greg Midat to Texas to complete trade for C Taylor Teagarden. **KANSAS CITY ROYALS**—Selected LHP Cesar Cabral from Boston and LHP Thomas Meltrejo from the L.A. Dodgers in the Rule 5 draft. **LOS ANGELES ANGELS**—Reached tentative understandings, pending physicals, with 1B Albert Pujols and LHP C.J. Wilson. **MINNESOTA TWINS**—Acquired RHP Daniel Turpen from Colorado to complete the Kevin Slowey trade. Selected RHP Terry Doyle from the Chicago White Sox in the Rule 5 draft. **N.Y. YANKEES**—Acquired LHP Cesar Cabral from Kansas City for cash considerations. Selected RHP Brad Meyers from Washington in the Rule 5 draft. Released OF Greg Golson. **TEXAS RANGERS**—Assigned INF Greg Midat to Frisco (Texas). Acquired RHP Fabian Williamson from Oakland, OF Erwin Nunez from Seattle and INF Alex Buchholz from Cincinnati in the Rule 5 draft.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Selected INF Gabe Jacob from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

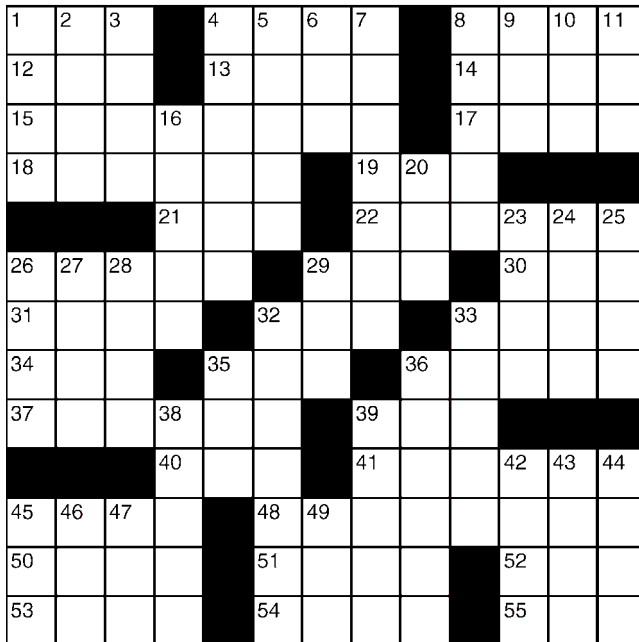
ATLANTA BRAVES—Selected LHP Robert Fish from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft. **CHICAGO CUBS**—Selected INF Ricky Alvarez from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft. **HOUSTON ASTROS**—Selected RHP Rhiner Cruz from the N.Y. Mets in the Rule 5 draft. **LOS ANGELES DODGERS**—Agreed to terms with RHP Aaron Harang on a 2-year contract. **ST. LOUIS CARDINALS**—Selected OF Erik Komatsu from Washington and LHP Barrett Browning from the L.A. Angels in

Crossword

Across

1 Pickle holder
4 React in horror
8 Anything but that
12 Past
13 Concept
14 Stroll
15 Medium-sized dog
17 Without acting
18 To-do list
19 Every last crumb
21 Timpy's cartoon pal
22 Lassie, e.g.
26 Pavarotti's range
29 A mere handful
30 Toss in
31 Nerve cell process
32 Carte lead-in
33 Turned blue?
34 Gas stat
35 Wall climber
36 Deep-voiced singer
37 "French" dog
39 Shriner's chapeau
40 "— the fields we go ..."

41 Anti-elderly prejudice
45 Satchmo's genre
48 Large terrier
50 Burn soother
51 Pesky insect
52 Silent
53 Night light?
54 Tackles' team-mates
55 Crony
Down
1 — Pinkett Smith
2 Quite enthusiastic
3 Judicial garb
4 Construction piece



5 Madison Avenue worker
6 Vast expanse
7 Cure-all
8 Dungaree, for one
9 Owned
10 Under the weather
11 Heavens
16 Company that went under in 2001
20 Depressed
23 Pringles competitor
24 Bad day for Caesar
25 Taro root
26 Pack (down)

27 World's fair
28 "Forget it"
29 Aviate
32 Mean
33 In a stupor
35 — de-France
36 Sires
38 Doughnut shop purchase
39 Capacitance measure
42 Poetic foot
43 Insult
44 Note to self
45 Van Eyck or Vermeer

46 Milwaukee product
47 Menagerie
49 Hostel

► Yesterday's answer



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Travel will be a lot of fun today but if you overdo it, tomorrow's lunar eclipse will bring you back to earth!

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Inner changes are making you rather touchy at the moment but, as always, the moment will pass.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You're in an assertive and adventurous mood, but some people may see you as too domineering.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 The approaching eclipse has got you in a bit of a tizzy. You may have to lie down for a bit to get your balance!

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 You will be enthusiastic about something you discover today but don't get carried away and preach to people.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 You may lose patience with someone you work with today, but they are not being obstructive for fun.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You're in one of those moods when you'll do anything for anyone. If not careful, you'll be taken advantage of.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 A financial opportunity will intrigue you, but is it the kind of thing you want to get involved in long-term?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

You may fall heavily for someone today, but don't get carried away because this is a passing fancy.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Certain duties may be tiresome but if you tackle them now, then your time will be your own.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

The approaching eclipse will bring more tension into your life but you have what it takes to handle it.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Family squabbles of one kind or another are likely over the next two or three days. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



A look at the weather

TODAY
Min -8°
Max 3°

SATURDAY
Min -4°
Max 2°

SUNDAY
Min -9°
Max -3°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." WEEKDAYS 5:30AM



Caption contest



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Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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1. Changed shirt colour left of the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 2. Removed bench arm rest 3. Removed sticker from door left of the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 4. Changed address of building from 1322 to 1332 5. Removed pipe from building above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 6. Changed position of neon sign 7. Changed colour of wall above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 8. Added circle decor to building right of the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 9. Extended yellow paint right of the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 10. Removed messenger bag from woman at the right side of image



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4805 17 Ave SE
Unit 195, 1518 Centre St NE
Unit 101, 77 Castleridge Blvd NE

Authorized Dealers

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Unit 101, 4908 17 Ave SE
Dollar Store:
Unit 5, 12 Castleridge Dr NE
Rocky Mountain Computer Repair:
Unit 307, 3200 Glenmore Tr SE
Mobile Zone:
Unit 101, 2640 52nd St NE
Express Computer Store:
Unit 210, 9737 MacLeod Tr SW
Ascot Business Systems:
Unit 104A, 3716-61 Ave SE

Rojin Bakery & Food Market Inc:
Unit 8, 4105 4th St NW
Sol Optix: 628 B 17th Ave SW
M&C Food Mart: 1412 9th Ave SE
Stanley Park Grocery:
4049 MacLeod Tr SW
Centex Petroleum:
Unit 608, 19th St SE
Hing Wah Imports:
312 Centre St SE
IC Computers:
Unit 122, 3715 51st St SW